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6 May 1985

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

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REGIONAL AFFAIRS

AFESD DIRECTOR INTERVIEWED ON FUND'S CURRENT ROLE

London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 6 Mar 85 p 8

[Interview with Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, director of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development by Abd al-Mun'im al-Ashnihi: "Saudi Arabia Playing a Big Role in Supporting Fund Development Projects. Fund Gives Priority to Arab Food Security Projects;" in Riyadh, date not specified]

[Text] Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, AFESD director general and chairman of the board, has expressed his appreciation of the step which Prince Talal bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz, director of the Arab Gulf Program, has taken in support the development and humanitarian agencies of the United Nations in backing one of the important development projects in the Gaza strip, indicating that this initiative will encourage the other Arab Funds and regional organizations in taking similar positions in the near future towards the Palestinian people in its occupied lands. Dr al-'Imadi also praised the support which the kingdom extends to the fund's programs, explaining that the kingdom contributes 20 percent of the fund's capital. He added that since its inception, the fund has met with every solicitude from al-Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, the Saudi minister of finance and national economy, observing that he will become chairman of the fund's board of governors at the meeting which will take place 9 April 1985. Dr al-'Imadi said that the fund has extended 136 loans, valued at approximately 638 million Kuwaiti Dinars, to 16 countries. The fund also wants to contribute to rebuilding Lebanon, but this is dependent on the security situation there.

This emerged in the conversation which AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT had with Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi during his recent visit to the Saudi capital, and the following is the text of the meeting.

[Question] What is the nature of your quick visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia?

[Answer] I have come in answer to the invitation of Prince Talal, the director of the Gulf Program. With me is my colleague, Dr Isma'il al-Zabiri, the director of the center for studies and researches at the fund, and we have surveyed AFESD activities in the service of the Arab human being, the Arab youth, child and woman, these areas being within the concern of Prince Talal. We also discussed with Prince Talal the subject of participation in support of Arab

governments to eradicate illiteracy, and the role which the fund is fulfilling together with the Arab Agency to eradicate illiteracy--part of the Arab Organization for Education, Culture and the Sciences--and the Arab Fund for Illiteracy Eradication and Adult Education in the implementation of an ambitious plan that will contribute to the eradication of illiteracy. The plan will exceed \$30 million, and it includes a project to produce educational television films for that purpose. This program consists of 45 20-minute episodes.

Prince Talal considered this effort to be in accordance with the intentions and aims of the Gulf program, and with service in a basic human problem, as it could become a basis for increasing productivity in Arab society. The Prince also promised some financial support, up to \$250,000, which might be needed for this program, and cited the importance of cooperation between the Gulf Program on one side, and AFESD in funding and nurturing the cultural and ideological participation in some programs that contribute to the development problem in Arab society, in addition to contributing to development matters through the general support given to the Arab women, child and human being in this society.

Arab Food Security

[Question] What is the role of the fund in insuring food security for the Arab countries?

[Answer] Since 1984, the fund has channeled more than half of its loan programs towards this purpose by providing the required financing for a number of agricultural projects in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Jordan, North and South Yemen, Somalia, Sudan and Djibouti, because the subject of food security is important in the economic and social development operation, particularly as the insufficiency of the food needed by man and beast, which we now observe in some continents, and specifically in the African continent, is a matter that distresses us. What we, as a development establishment, should concern ourselves with is to propel the efforts of the governments towards exploiting the extensive resources in this nation for the good of man.

Therefore the leap of 1984 is a supplement to what we began in 1983, and what is being stressed in 1985 is the financing of those important agricultural projects. The fund's concern is not limited only to the financing area, as it has made contributions to the states that it deals with, regarding the problems that are encountered by agricultural development in this nation, and the solutions which it foresees, based on its expertise in solving those problems. I would also like to mention the symposium which took place in 1984 in the UAE, where a large number of experts, on the level of former prime ministers, ministers and experts in development matters, had met. Various recommendations in the fields of developing intensive agricultural policies, the conclusions arrived at through the deliberations, were distributed to all the Arab countries.

Moreover, the fund's concerns also extend to supporting agricultural experimentation and research centers. The Arab Fund is extending financial, and also technical support to the "IKARDA" establishment, which is headquartered in Halab [Syria], and which has projects for seed development and improvement, so that it may present the Arab countries with improved seed, resulting in higher agricultural productivity. In March, 1985, the establishment will organize a seminar, to which we have invited experts from Arab agricultural research establishments from all the Arab countries so that they may learn about the results of the work which has been completed, and so that they may utilize those results. We estimate that the increase in agricultural productivity by way of seed improvement could surpass 25 percent of the present harvest, if the necessary requirements for this work are provided.

At this very stage, we also stress the importance of reclaiming the unproductive desert lands which represent an important part of Arab lands. We have prepared studies for this purpose concerning the reclamation of regions that are called "al-Hammadah," or al-Hammadah Basin, which extends between Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Syria. At the end of March 1985, a symposium with the "IKSAD" establishment will be held to study the arid, barren areas, and our attempt to conduct studies on barren desert lands and the means by which those lands may be developed will be presented. There are also the efforts we are making in the agricultural development operation, through the coordination of agricultural policies and external trade policies that concern agriculture, in the Arab countries. We are making these efforts in cooperation with the Council on Arab Economic Unity and the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development. As you see therefore, there is a concentration on the subject of food security in 1985.

A Water Policy

[Question] What about the fund's priority projects?

[Answer] The fund is concentrating on instituting a water policy that would be cognizant of the importance of water in the Arab nation, and the necessity of managing water in a manner that is in accordance with the sound exploitation, and the preservation of this important resource, not only in agricultural life, but in our life as a whole. There also are studies that are being prepared now for a symposium at the beginning of 1986, to be held in cooperation with the Kuwait Development Fund, and some other funds. The hope is that a water policy, preserving and soundly utilizing water resources and profitable to various Arab countries, could result from such work.

There are also other subjects to which the fund pays great attention. They comprise preparing the Arab human being to accept the new development tasks in the required manner. The sum of the work that we do, in cooperation with the competent Arab organizations, and in a manner that is meant to support rather than replace the local efforts that are being made in this field, is to offer various training courses, in cooperation with the Arab Union for Technical

Education and other such unions. Those training courses, be they, for example, in the area of planning, in the Arab Institute for Planning in Kuwait, or in the area of statistics, in the Arab Institute for Statistics in Baghdad, or in the area of water and water works with the Arab Union for Technical Education, or in other areas, are intended to contribute to the development of the capabilities of the Arab human being so that he will be able to be in tune with the new development tasks.

There is also the subject of putting information at the service of Arab development, which we discussed in Riyadh in 1984, and we are still working at implementing its [the symposium's] extensive and very important recommendations. Actually, in light of that successful symposium, which took place under the chairmanship of al-Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, the Saudi minister of finance and national economy, the necessity of introducing the subject of information, the teaching of the principles of the computer, the utilization of modern communications and placing this collection of sciences at the service of primary, secondary and university education programs, had been agreed upon. Brothers from the University of Kuwait, and from other bodies in the Center for Financial Data in Saudi Arabia, in addition to a work team from the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research and AFESD, had participated with us in this work in order to provide the necessary proposals for the preparation of the educational program which must be implemented in various schools in order to arm the pupil with this new science and make him ready to accept the characteristics of the future society, the data base society.

As we can see then, the work of the Arab Fund is not only limited to extending loans, in spite of the fact that up until now, we have extended more than 136 loans to 16 countries, amounting to approximately 638 million Kuwaiti dinars.

Loans and Assistance

[Question] Which projects received the loans?

[Answer] In addition to the subject of food security, the loans comprised other projects that involve roads, wire and wireless communications. I would like to mention here that the Fund has financed a number of those projects, including linking Morocco with Algeria, Morocco and Algeria with Tunisia and Libya, as well as linking Iraq with Syria, Jordan and then Saudi Arabia, Djibouti with Somalia, North Yemen and South Yemen, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with Qatar, the UAE, Bahrain and then Kuwait. The fund has also participated in a number of those projects as we have funded the establishment of 11 ground stations for the Arab space satellite. The efforts were concentrated on establishing the ground stations for the Arab space satellite. This is in addition to our funding some industrial projects, water and sewer projects in the Arab countries that require our services, and electrical projects. We have funded all those projects in cooperation with the rest of the Arab funds, especially the Kuwaiti Fund, the Saudi Development Fund, the Islamic Development Bank and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Economic Development. These funds cooperate with us and vice versa, and we in fact work as a cohesive and compact group. I was pleased that Prince Talal is reaffirming his concern that the work which we are doing should be coordinated and in harmony with the work of the Gulf Program here.

Rebuilding Lebanon

[Question] Let us talk now about your part in the rebuilding of Lebanon, and when may we expect the beginning of the response to its requirements?

[Answer] Lebanon is an AFESD member, and the brothers in authority in the Board of Directors of this fund wish to help and support the people and government of Lebanon in rebuilding the country. In the past, the fund had extended loans for the Beirut Port project and the electricity project in Lebanon, but the present conditions have not enabled the Arab Fund to do its duty in contributing to the efforts which must be made to rebuild Lebanon. We hope, with all eagerness and enthusiasm that, God willing, we shall be afforded this opportunity when the security situation has stabilized in Lebanon to an extent that would permit us to resume our activities in this fraternal country which is in need of every help and support from us.

[Question] What is the volume of the support required from the fund for the rebuilding of Lebanon?

[Answer] The brothers who are responsible for this at the Ministry of Finance and the Development Board in Lebanon have submitted to us programs for reconstruction. Everyone knows that the conditions which the Lebanese economy is undergoing now could require the re-examination of some of those programs so as to bring them up to date in accordance to the existing conditions in Lebanon. I think that the required efforts are very substantial, and the required financing is substantial. In the past Lebanon has participated in supporting numerous Arab activities, and it is also incumbent upon us to help our Lebanese brothers and to participate in rebuilding Lebanon when we are given an opportunity to do this.

[Question] What repercussion does the decision which Prince Talal took in relation to the Palestinian people in Gaza have on your position regarding Lebanon?

[Answer] I believe that what Prince Talal has undertaken, should be undertaken by other similar organizations. We hope that an agreement will be reached in the future between the Lebanese government and the Arab and international financing establishments on programs that will be approved by the contributing Arab countries and implemented with the aid of the Arab funds, so that there will be a concentration on an acceptable program to rebuild Lebanon. It is hoped that Lebanon will realize its aspiration in rebuilding the country and its economy. We praise God that the usurping and invading Israeli forces have begun to leave Lebanon, thanks to the courageous popular resistance which has set a wonderful example, an example that will be emulated in resistance to occupation, its heroic actions having created a great impression on all Arab fighters.

Tangible Saudi Support

[Question] How does the director general of the fund regard the volume and vitality of Saudi support for AFESD.

[Answer] Saudi Arabia has a clear investment in the fund, and al-Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl had himself participated in the 1967 Algeria Conference to arrange the AFESD agreement. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia now has the deputyship to the chairman of the board of governors, and l-Shaykh Aba al-Khayl will become chairman of the board of governors at the next meeting of the board which will be held in April 1985. Through the person of its representative on the board of directors, Dr Salih al-Maydani, the kingdom is exercising clear guidance, persuasion and support for the programs and activities of the Arab Fund. The Saudi contribution to financing the fund is estimated at approximately 20 percent of the fund's capital, and it is as you see, a clear and persuasive contribution, unsurpassed except for the State of Kuwait, whose contribution is approximately 21 percent of the fund's capital. I do not regard financial contribution only as the single factor in supporting the fund, for there are other activities which the fund initiates and which receive the kingdom's constant patronage. We always meet with all the support and backing for the work we are doing from al-Shaykh Aba al-Khayl. There is also the Saudi Development Fund, as coordination exists between us and the Saudi Development Fund that has given good and encouraging results in all areas. We strive for the integration and cohesiveness of the activities of the Arab Fund with those of other Arab funds. In short I cannot but rely on the importance which the kingdom, through the government of King Fahd bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz, has accorded us, and we place all our confidence in the continuation of the support and approval of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of the fund's activities.

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CSO: 4404/240

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

ARMENIAN DAILY CRITICIZES WEINBERGER STATEMENT

GF101654 Beirut AZTAG in Armenian 26 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "They Cannot Silence the Armenians"]

[Excerpts] In its effort to woo Turkey, the Reagan administration has started to make devious interventions in order to obstruct the course of the bill adopted by the House of Representatives with regard to declaring 24 April 1985 a "National Commemoration Day," and which has been submitted to the Senate for approval. [passage omitted]

During the first week of February, senators and congressmen in Washington promised to support the discussion of this bill in the Senate. It was clear from the efforts made by the Armenian Cause Commission of the United States and the contacts made with senators that it was likely the bill would be approved.

However, despite the fact that the bill is only of moral significance, since it does not put the executive body under any obligation to recognize the Armenian genocide or discuss it in international organizations, the Reagan administration seems worried about the reaction of its ally [Turkey], particularly since we are on the threshold of the 70th anniversary of the genocide.

The interventions of the Reagan administration in the work of Congress had been carried out through indirect means. However, on 21 February, when speaking before the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, Reagan's defense secretary not only expressed to the Senate his opposition to the bill dealing with the Armenian genocide, but also questioned the historic authenticity of the genocide. [passage omitted]

The basically antidemocratic behavior of the U.S. administration is cause for resentment. By questioning the historic truth of the genocide as set forth in the bill, the Reagan administration queries the honesty and political capability of hundreds of congressmen and senators and wants to impose the will of the executive body on the legislative body.

The U.S. House of Representatives did not adopt the bill on declaring 24 April a national commemoration day simply to satisfy the demands of certain Armenians. Certainly, the U.S. congressmen and senators carried out the necessary studies

and, seeing that the U.S. state archives are full of documents establishing the truth of the genocide, they approved the adoption of the bill. [passage omitted]

Weinberger's opinions clearly reflect the Turkish insistences, as if Evren or Ozal had themselves addressed the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee.

In their distorted opinions expressed against the "24 April" bill, individuals like Weinberger are most mistaken in the belief that decisions in favor of the Armenians mean an encouragement of Armenian terrorism. In particular, as we are on the threshold of the 70th anniversary of the genocide, individuals like Weinberger are looking for an opportunity to devalue the Armenian demands and are using the international media serving imperialism for this purpose. The imperialist media are trying hard to divert the attention of humanity from the insecure situation created by the nuclear policy and state terrorism of people like Weinberger. International terrorism in itself is the creation of the imperialist mind, and the imperialist intention to represent national liberation struggles as similar to international terrorism is simply a devious strategy to silence the just voices of deprived people.

The multifaceted Armenian struggle for rights was created by the curtain of silence drawn by the big countries against the rights of the Armenian people. The multisided struggle of the Armenian people and international propaganda partly tore that curtain of silence.

Through the instruction of Turkey, people like Weinberger are once again endeavoring to silence the Armenians, but they are forgetting that the ignorance of the Armenian cause for a long time in itself gave birth to Armenian terrorism.

Thus, people like Weinberger, with their selfish strategy, are the reason why deprived people who lose hope in international justice have no choice but to resort to revolutionary or extremist measures in order to make their voice heard.

CSO: 4605/138

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

FRG PAPER: ASALA GETS ASSISTANCE FROM SYRIA, BULGARIA, GDR

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 16 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Frankfurt--The FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, one of the most influential papers in the FRG, has concluded in the course of a recent study on the origins and activities of ASALA [Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia] that the said organization has moved its headquarters from Beirut to Athens where it has been operating freely and without restrictions. The paper says that ASALA is supported by several countries and organizations, that the Syrian and Bulgarian secret services, in particular, have assisted the organization and that GDR authorities have provided facilities on several occasions.

The paper says that an agreement between the French government and ASALA was revoked following the incident at Orly airport as reported on several occasions previously.

Correspondents working on this case determined in the course of their research that items found in Semerjian's home included Bulgarian, Czech and Soviet weapons, equipment to prepare forged papers and 18 FRG identity cards made out to various names.

According to the paper's information, Bedros Avanesian, an ASALA leader who is more commonly known as Hagop Hagopian, had wide-ranging disagreements with the other leaders of the organization in connection with the means of terrorism.

The paper gives the following details in this regard:

"Hagopian used Beirut as his general headquarters until the summer of 1982 when he left the city together with Palestinian guerrillas after the Israeli army besieged the Lebanese capital. Since then Athens has replaced Beirut as ASALA's general headquarters. Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou willingly ignored all of their activities. However, after the Orly incident Hagopian was told to return to Beirut. As the French daily LE MATIN reported previously, the ASALA leader visited East Berlin frequently."

9588
CSO: 4605/132

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

UN URGED TO EXAMINE 'GENOCIDE ALLEGATIONS IMPARTIALLY'

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 19 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Ankara--Speaking about assaults staged by various Armenian organizations on Turkish representative missions abroad and the measures needed to curb such attacks, former foreign minister Hasan Esat Isik stated that the United Nations must impartially examine the genocide allegations that are being put forward.

Isik said that the United Nations must examine all issues related to the [Armenian] genocide and urged Turkey to take the initiative on this issue and to submit such a proposal to the United Nations.

Later speaking about the protection of Turkish diplomats and representatives abroad, Işık underscored the need for extreme caution on that issue and said that what is more important is that Turkey must make efforts to prevent the spread of anti-Turkish propaganda and the formation of anti-Turkish movements at least in allied and friendly countries. He said that, consequently, the authorities in such countries must be pressured to prevent such propaganda to the extent that is possible and to head off the emergence of adverse feelings and opinions against Turkey.

9588
CSO: 4605/130

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

CANADIAN POLICE CHIEF ELABORATES ON TURKISH EMBASSY INCIDENT

Istanbul JAMANAK in Armenian 16 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Ottawa--Canadian Police Chief Lonchan, who arrested the three terrorists who occupied the Turkish embassy here, said in a statement to HURRIYET: "Let the Turks rest assured that we will gather all the evidence needed to give the terrorists the punishment they deserve." The experienced police chief stated that the suspects have been charged with first degree murder and that the prosecution will ask for life imprisonment for them. The police chief added: "As you know, the death penalty does not exist in Canada."

Wilfried Lonchan, a senior detective in the Investigative Division of the Ottawa Police Department who forced the Armenian terrorists to surrender, said: "When they realized that they would not be able to capture Ambassador Kirca, they surrendered."

Lonchan stated that after the terrorists surrendered police found three automatic rifles and two pistols in the embassy's yard and six hand grenades inside the embassy building. In response to a question, Lonchan said: "We could not find any explosives inside the Turkish embassy designed to blow up the building."

MILLIYET correspondent Sami Kohen reports that the Pinkerton Agency guard at the embassy who was killed by the Armenian terrorists carried a gun but was not allowed to use it. However, it has been found out that Claude Bronnel, the guard, fired his gun even though he was not permitted to use it.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police officials noted that this attempt by the Canadian guard to stop the assault on the Turkish embassy cost him his life.

Meanwhile, the Canadian opposition has criticized the government for leaving the task of protecting the Turkish embassy to private agency guards who had no authority to fire their guns.

Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark visited Ambassador Kirca at the Ottawa General Hospital two days ago to express his wishes for quick recovery and declared that "security measures around the Turkish embassy will be tightened."

Clark also stated that work is under way to bring the three Armenian terrorists to justice quickly and to punish them.

Turkish embassy counselor Yalcin Oral announced: "The condition of Ambassador Kirca, who was severely injured and who underwent critical surgery, has been steadily improving. His doctors are not allowing anyone to see him, except his immediate family members, so that he will not be disturbed."

It has been learned that the three Armenian terrorists will be arraigned before a court on 30 April.

Julie (Lorange), the head of the Turkish desk of the Canadian Foreign Ministry, stated that her department evaluated the Turkish warning to the effect that the Armenians may stage an assault following the Orly trial in France, that security measures around the Turkish embassy were tightened and that, however, no amount of security measures may stop a determined group of terrorists. She added that Turkish embassy officials had also found the security precautions adequate.

(Lorange) stressed that most of the 45,000 Armenians living in Canada oppose terrorism. She said that the Canadian government also opposes terrorism and that the Canadian parliament has not endorsed any resolutions concerning the Armenian genocide.

Meanwhile, Philip Aslanian, a Canadian-Armenian lawyer who has agreed to defend the three Armenian terrorists in court, said in a statement: "The incident is not an ordinary crime, but a definite political act. Kevork Marashlian, Hovhannes Nubarian and Panos Terzian are completely innocent."

Canadian security officials have stated that the three terrorists agreed to surrender voluntarily without any preconditions and that they only said at the time of their surrender: "Just do not shoot us."

The officials added that the trial of Marashlian, Nubarian (both immigrants from Syria) and Terzian (an immigrant from Lebanon) may take months.

9588

CSO: 4605/133

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

TURKISH PAPER REPORTS ON ARMENIAN ACTIVITIES IN CANADA

Istanbul MARMARA in Armenian 15 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] The HURRIYET correspondent reports from Toronto:

While all English and French language papers in Canada have sharply condemned the latest incident [at the Turkish embassy in Ottawa], some of them have provided extensive space to the Armenian allegations and some have even tried to portray the Armenians as being right.

THE CITIZEN and LE DEVOIR, two of Ottawa's most serious papers, write about the Armenian genocide, while the Toronto GLOBE AND MAIL echoes the views of Archbishop Torkom Manugian, the Armenian Prelate of America, who condemns terrorism but who stubbornly sticks to the charges of genocide. In his statement, Archbishop Manugian says that "such incidents will continue for as long as Turkey refuses to acknowledge the genocide."

An editorial in the same paper says that modern Turkey cannot be blamed for events that occurred 70 years ago and that, however, the Ankara government must put its archives at the disposal of Turkish, Armenian and other historians so that they can study them and ascertain the facts. The editorial concludes: "The injustices done in the past must not be forgotten, but they must be acknowledged."

Pro-Armenian Canadian Diplomat

The Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations, Stephen Lewis, attended a gathering organized by the Armenians, and in his speech he virtually expressed support for the terrorists. In an contemptuous reference toward Turkey, Lewis said: "We are obliged to remember the Armenian genocide of 1915 and we must never forget it."

This Canadian diplomat, who regularly attends similar "friends of Armenia" gatherings organized by Armenians in Toronto, is considered as "the most loyal supporter of Armenian allegations of genocide." In this year's gathering, Lewis' remarks to the effect that "the genocide committed by the Turks was a monstrous act" were received with standing ovations by the Armenians in the hall.

Lewis said in his speech: "This genocide initiated by the Turks will remain an unforgettable event on the conscience of mankind. The memory of the Armenians killed by Ottoman Turks must be kept alive forever." These words aroused the passions of the participants to peak levels, and Lewis was applauded at length by the Armenians in the hall.

Who is Lewis?

Ambassador Stephen Lewis is one of the Armenians' closest friends and leading supporters. He is a former Toronto leader of the Social Democratic Party. Although he is a Social Democrat, the conservative government in power today has named him to the important post of Ambassador to the United Nations, and the 44-year-old Lewis, who is of Jewish ancestry, has been executing this office for a long time. He is a "dear friend" of the 40,000 Armenians in Canada and is regarded as one of the most influential political figures in the country. It is reported that in addition to Lewis there are a number of Social Democratic Canadian parliamentarians who also sympathize with the Armenians and that this situation encourages the Armenians even further.

9588

CSO: 4605/131

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ARMENIAN GROUP DENOUNCES WEINBERGER REMARKS--[Statement issued by the Armenian Cause Commission of the Armenian Revolutionary Tashnak Party of Lebanon--date not given] The unacceptable and scandalous remarks by the U.S. secretary of defense [on the Armenian genocide in an address to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee] are resented by all Armenians throughout the entire diaspora. The secretary's remarks are simply the latest expression of the anti-Armenian stance adopted by the U.S. government during Reagan's presidency. It is obvious that the U.S. government is not only following a pro-Turkish policy, but also displaying a negative stance on the Armenian cause and is ready to query and even distort the historic truth of the genocide. The Armenian people with all the means available to them and with the assistance of friendly governments will continue to struggle for their just cause and the holy memory of their 1.5 million martyrs. Individuals like Weinberger cannot terminate our struggle because we will continue our demand for rights until the genocide, which has been declared by international law as an untimely crime, is recognized by Turkey, and the Armenian people are compensated for their human, material, and cultural losses and their usurped lands are returned to them. [Signed] The Armenian Cause Commission of the Armenian Revolutionary Dashnak Party of Lebanon. [Text] [GF101838 Beirut AZTAG in Armenian 26 Mar 85 p 1]

CSO: 4605/139

ALGERIA

APS ON U.S. CONGRESS RECOMMENDATIONS ON W. SAHARA

LD081527 Algiers APS in French 1200 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Algiers, 8 Apr (APS)--The American congress has just adopted a series of laws and recommendations regarding the necessary orientation of the policy the U.S. government should implement with regard to the problem of the Western Sahara and the right of the Saharan people to self-determination and independence.

These important recommendations are noteworthy in that they reflect above all the growing sympathy of American public opinion with the Saharan people's fight and its just struggle. It is also a good sign because it falls in line with the decisions of international authorities advocating the Saharan people's freedom to choose its fate on a peaceful basis negotiated between the two belligerent parties in the Western Sahara, the SDAR and Morocco.

The realistic perspective on the true nature of the Moroccan-Saharan conflict can only further reinforce the positions of the international community, and the African continent and the nonaligned movement in particular, which do not cease to repeat their wishes for a peaceful settlement of the Western Sahara question, a solution in accordance with the UN and OAU Charters.

The recommendations of the American congress also stress the need for the United States government to maintain and increase contact with both parties to the conflict; the Polisario Front and Morocco.

A reorientation of American policy with regard to the West Saharan conflict can only speed up a negotiated solution, as defined by resolution [not further identified] reinforced by the UN at its last assembly.

For their part, the Saharan leaders, who have expressed their satisfaction at the position of the American congress, recently recalled, through their most authorized channel, their sincere wish to begin talks with Morocco to put an end to the deadly war, and say they are willing to find an honorable solution to the conflict "without either victor or vanquished."

CSO: 4500/86

6 May 1985

ALGERIA

PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH SOVIET YOUTH LEADERS

LD091229 Algiers APS in English 1144 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Text] Algiers, 09/04/85 (APS)--Two documents were signed on Monday by a delegation of the National Union of the Algerian Youth (U.N.J.A.) and a delegation of the Communist Youth of the Soviet Komsomols, now paying a visit to Algeria. The two delegations were chaired by Nur al-Din Djellouli, C.C. member secretary general of the National Union of Algerian Youth, and Mishin Viktor.

A protocol of agreement bearing on the stepping up of bilateral relations was signed. The agreement provides for the exchange of experiences in various fields especially in the field of vocational training, scientific and technical activities of the Kechefs (scout boys) and the exchange between official information media and delegations in the field of youth.

The first document also deals with the cooperation for the holding of the 12th World Youth and Students Festival scheduled in Moscow next July.

A joint declaration was signed as a second document in which the two youth organizations underlined their common will to develop relations of cooperation between the National Union of Algerian Youth and the Communist Youth of the Soviet Komsomols.

The two sides also expressed their concern over the deterioration of the international situation resulting from the increase of aggressiveness of imperialism especially in the Middle East, in Africa and in Latin America.

The Algerian and Soviet delegations expressed their solidarity with the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, the people of South Africa and the just struggle of the Western Sahara people for their self-determination and peoples of Latin and Central America, especially in Nicaragua and Salvador.

CSO: 4500/86

ALGERIA

JCINT INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE MEETS

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 20 Mar 85 p 7

[Text] Belgrade (APS)--The Algerian-Yugoslav joint subcommittee on industrial cooperation met on Monday in Belgrade, where an Algerian delegation had arrived for the purpose of finalizing the annual protocol on the subject for 1985-1986.

Following the plenary meeting of the two delegations, work is continuing in three subcommittees today (heavy industry, light industry and petrochemicals). The Algerian delegation will then go to Kruchevo, a Serbian city located 200 kilometers from Belgrade, to visit two enterprises specializing in agricultural machinery and hydraulics and pneumatic equipment. Signing of the protocol is scheduled for 22 March.

The Algerian delegation, headed by Lakhdar Bayou, secretary general of the Ministry of Heavy Industry, will be received during his stay by Jivorad Kovacevic, member of the government and president of the Yugoslav section of the Yugoslav-Algerian joint committee, and Rade Pavlovic, chairman of the federal energy committee (minister).

Bilateral industrial cooperation is experiencing satisfactory development and it is expected that this session will closely examine the means of achieving greater coordination between the two industries, along with possibilities of improved trade, such as the exchange of standard products between the two nations. Within this context, the case of the Oued Hamimine agricultural machinery plant and the Torpedo enterprise in Rijeka, which use the same license, is eloquent.

Other matters, such as the removal of the 500,000 tons of crude which a Yugoslav enterprise has undertaken to take as a form of compensation, will also be studied at the session.

The Algerian delegation, accompanied by the governor of Bouira, Salah Laouir, who came to learn of the industrial possibilities of Yugoslavia, is made up of Messrs Stambouli, director of foreign activities of the Ministry of Heavy Industry, Medjkoud, from the Ministry of Light Industry, Laalaoui, from the petrochemical industries, Anane, director of the Tizi-Ouzou household appliance production unit, Boumendjel, director of the Guelma cycle and motorcycle unit, and Drid, director of the Oued Hamimine agricultural machinery unit.

ALGERIA

REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED FOR CHANGE OF RESIDENCE

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 18 Mar 85 p 12

[Article by Mohamed Laidi]

[Text] Considered to be an incentive for reintegration and kind of a bonus for returning, the change of residence certificate is a document granted by our consular representations abroad to all our nationals requesting it on the occasion of their definitive return home.

As we know, the advantage consists in an exemption from duties and taxes on personal affairs and a vehicle which they can import. Conditions are naturally established for its obtention and vary from one socioprofessional category to another.

For salaried workers, a number of documents must be furnished, particularly the work certificate and wage stubs.

For merchants and artisans: an abstract showing removal from the Commerce Register for the former and an abstract showing removal from the Trades Chamber for the latter.

For the retired, disabled and those living on pensions: notification of the transfer of such certificates to Algeria.

For students and trainees: admissions records and for scholarship students, a certificate issued by the Algerian Embassy in the host country.

On the basis of these essential documents, plus other related papers going into the file (see below), a change of residence certificate (CCR) is issued.

Persons having resided for over 6 months and under 3 years can also obtain such a document. They enjoy the same privileges as those granted to persons residing for over 3 years, as far as their personal affairs are concerned (personal property), but are not exempt from duties and taxes on their vehicle.

Along this same line of ideas, it must be pointed out that the 1985 Budget (Article 160) provides for payment of the sum of 2,000 Algerian dinars in convertible currency, representing the amount due on the occasion of the filing

for the privilege of being exempt from duties and taxes on personal property and a vehicle. Such payment is to be made in Algeria.

The procedure for such a change in residence is quite simple. The party in question has only to go to the consulate where he is registered, at the end of his stay, in order to file his application.

Incentive

As a general rule, the whole procedure takes about 10 days, which period is for examination of the application and verification procedures before the permit is issued. It sometimes happens that the document is obtained the same day, particularly in the case of those whose records are in good order and also those whose departures by boat are not possible on a regular basis. At least, such is the case at the General Consulate in Paris. There, for example, the procedure is as follows: The morning is devoted to filing the application and the afternoon to issuance. Every day, some 40 change of residence certificates are issued. A copy of the list of beneficiaries is immediately transmitted to the Algerian customs. That same consulate has also informed us that all filed are handled with speed and diligence. "Our policy consists of encouraging reintegration." Consul General Abdelbaki told us, "while protecting the national interest." However, many of our nationals appear with incomplete files, without wage stubs, sometimes without proof of their stay or even with dubious documents. Such problem cases require further verification and inevitably result in delays, which explains the slowness of the procedure.

Necessary Clarification

Consular authorities are also sometimes confronted with complex situations not foreseen by the law. For example, we know that the law authorizes a change of residence for the head of the family and if the older son or daughter, often employed, should in turn request such a document, what then would be the response? How is one to rule on the property lists of some of our fellow countrymen whose salary is often equal to the SMIG [interoccupational guaranteed minimum wage]? This is but a glimpse of cases that are legally vague and that are, in the final analysis, left up to the discretion of the consular chief, in the absence of more detailed and better adapted laws. One should also bring out the lack of information concerning customs operations at our ports. Most of those returning are unaware of procedures, the nature and amount of possible taxes. It would therefore be beneficial to post such information in all our representations abroad, thus avoiding any misunderstanding in this type of operation.

Finally, although not part of our subject, one should emphasize the smuggling that occurs in cases of changes of residency and that must not be underestimated. Unfortunately, there are such cases, usually "big shots," importers-exporters who, for a few thousand francs, use the emigres to bring in their own goods. How many times have returnees appeared at consulates carrying lists of property without even knowing what is on them?

Documents Required To Obtain Change of Residence Certificate

For all wage earners:

- 1) valid passport
- 2) consular registration card over 6 months old, plus copy
- 3) residence card and two copies of both sides
- 4) work certificates and pay stubs for the past 3 years, plus photocopies
- 5) following consent of the consulate:
 - a) grey card and two photocopies
 - b) report from mines and abstract from customs, plus photocopies of both sides
 - c) international identity book

For all merchants and artisans

- 1) valid passport
- 2) consular registration card over 6 months old, plus photocopy
- 3) residence card plus two photocopies of both sides

Merchants

- 4) commercial register abstract plus photocopy
- 5) abstract of removal from commercial register plus photocopy

Artisans

- 6) professional card and abstract of removal issued by the Trades Chamber, plus photocopy
- 7) Following consent of the consulate
 - a) grey card plus two photocopies
 - b) report from mines and abstract from customs, plus photocopies of both sides
 - d) international identity card

Retired, Disabled and Persons on Pensions

- 1) valid passport
- 2) consular registration card over 6 months old, plus photocopy
- 3) residence card, plus two photocopies of both sides
- 4) certificates of retirement of disability or of pension
- 5) certificates of payment for the past 3 years plus photocopies
- 6) notice of transfer of the three categories to Algeria
- 7) Following consent of consulate
 - a) grey card plus two photocopies
 - b) report from mines and abstract from customs plus photocopies of both sides
 - c) international identity card

Students and Trainees

- 1) valid passport
- 2) consular registration card over 6 months old, plus photocopy
- 3) residence card plus two photocopies of both sides
- 4) school admissions records or certificate of training for the past 3 years, plus photocopies
- 5) certification of completion of training or diploma obtained
- 6) position vis-a-vis military service

Students and Trainees on Scholarship

Certification of the scholarship issued by the Algerian Embassy or the appointment

Students and Trainees Not on Scholarship

Pay stubs and work certificates for the past 3 years; notice of transfer of funds (from an Algerian bank)

- 6) Following consent of consulate a) grey card plus two photocopies
- b) report from mines and abstract from customs plus copies of both sides
- c) international identity card

Note:

- 1 -- The change of residence certificate is issued only to the head of the family family registered with the General Consulate.
- 2 -- Action on the application varies from 10 to 15 days.
- 3 -- Students, trainees and women have no right to own hunting weapons.

Important

Nationals are hereby notified that the 1985 Budget, Article 160, provides for the payment of 2,000 Algerian dinars in convertible currency. representing the fee due upon filing for the application for the exemption from duties and taxes on personal property and a vehicle.

Hunting Weapons

- 1) three copies of the application for the permit
- 2) the receipt for a hunting weapon

11,464

CSO: 4519/123

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

CUBAN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS--Cuba, which has had an exhibit at the International Fair in Algiers since independence, has excellent commercial relations with Algeria, according to the Cuban commercial attach in Algeria. Moreover, these relations are not limited to trade, but extend to cooperation in a general way. Doctors, professors and technicians from Cuba are helping to strengthen that cooperation. Regarding commercial trade itself, Cuba imports various products from Algeria. One might mention phosphates, olives, wine, cork and certain mineral products. Other items such as leather, but above all, surgical gauze of very high quality, might be of interest to Cuba, the Cuban commercial attache said. In addition, Cuba sells Algeria both sugar and tobacco, the main sources of that country's income, along with cement, detergents and coffee. [Text] [Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 15-16 Mar 85 p 4] 11,464

CSO: 4519/123

LIBYA

CALL FOR UPRISING IN ALL ARAB COUNTRIES

LD070645 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0324 GMT 7 Apr 85

[Text] As a result of the popular revolution, we witnessed on 6 April 1985 the downfall of a traitor hireling who succumbed under painful blows which he could not endure. The hireling Ja'far Numayri, the traitor who obstructed the capabilities of more than 20 million Sudanese Arabs and prevented them from sharing with their Arab nation the confrontation against imperialism and Zionism, has fallen for good. The tyrant who transformed the land of Arab Sudan into unproductive land and ruins--the land which used to be known for the good quality and the abundance of its products--has fallen.

The sun has set on that fascist regime which used to control and attempt to suppress our masses in the Sudan. The rule of the hireling, the traitor--the regime of compromise--has gone forever. The regime of Numayri, who was among the first to visit the traitor Sadat to congratulate him and support his surrender steps, has gone forever. Numayri, confirming his role as a traitor, facilitated the transfer of the Falasha Jews to the occupied Arab land, strengthening the Zionists and consolidating their presence in our Arab land. Numayri betrayed the covenants, charters, and agreements of unity and totally disavowed them. He threw himself totally into the lap of America and Zionism, thereby humiliating the Sudanese Arab masses when he stood begging at the doorstep of the White House. Like other reactionaries, he licked the boot of the arrogant terrorist Reagan, in a belief that the U.S. administration would protect him against the wrath of the masses and their revolution. But Numayri's calculations were wrong, because he is a naive person who has not read history, not even recent history. He has not paid attention to recent history. Had he done so, he would have been convinced that America could not stand up against the masses. Proof of this lies in the fall of the Shah, the true friend of America; the fall of Somoza, the dictator of Nicaragua; and before them, the fall of Idris al-Sannusi. When the masses resolve to stage a revolution, America cannot resist them; it cannot touch them.

The fall of the butcher Ja'far Numayri is a result of the popular revolution whose fire was kindled in the Sudan truly confirms that the Arab nation is witnessing a real awakening and that the Arab masses have regained their self-confidence. It gives impetus to our masses throughout the Arab homeland to march along the path of the popular revolution, which alone can make our nation capable of getting rid of all agents and traitors who compromise everything in

return for nothing, the traitors and agents whom you can see begging America to give them very little, forgetting that the Arab nation is the one which has all the capabilities and is the one which is qualified to be in a position of someone who is strong and not someone who is weak and begging the sympathy of the imperialist and Zionist circles.

Duty calls on all the Arab masses to reject the regimes of treason and hirelings and to come out in a popular revolution without fearing the rulers, as the latter are cowards who fear the anger of the masses. Our Arab masses in Egypt, Somalia, Jordan, Iraq, and everywhere that reaction can be found on Arab land, arise! Rise to destroy the submissive traitors who have betrayed our nation, compromised everything, given away our land to be used as American bases, and allowed the flag of the Zionists to flutter in the Arab sky.

The hour has arrived for settling the score with agent rulers such as the hireling Numayri, with whom our Arab masses in Sudan settled their score when they came out in a popular revolution which toppled him and his regime. This totally reaffirms that the Arab nation has begun to witness a true awakening. This is the first eruption of the Arab volcano which has thrown out and burnt the hireling Numayri. Tomorrow the eruption of the Arab volcano will get stronger and burn all traitors and falling apostates. Brothers, advance and destroy the remaining symbols of subserviency. Their fate will be the same as that of Sadat and the rhinoceros Numayri. They are all traitors and will all fall as a result of the advancing popular revolution. It will inevitably come!

CSO: 4500/87

MAURITANIA

DOMESTIC SITUATION, ECONOMIC PROBLEMS VIEWED

Paris LE MONDE in French 5, 6 Mar 85

[Article by Jean de la Gueriviere: "Mauritania: Poor But Dignified"]

[5 Mar 85 p 7]

[Text] Nouakchott--While in the streets, the most popular topic of conversation of late has been the higher cost of basic foodstuffs, as required by the IMF, talk in the drawing rooms turns tirelessly around the intentions of King Hassan II and President Chadli regarding the conflict in the Sahara. "It is now or never for them to get this matter settled. Each one has proved that the other could not win a complete victory. The situation is blocked. Both must draw their conclusions and explain them to their people. This is all the more desirable because they now both have the domestic situation well in hand. Furthermore, since the Libyan defection, Algiers is able to lower the POLISARIO's demands. If they let this chance slip by, the situation will become more explosive than ever." Such is the opinion expressed by most Mauritanian officials speaking privately.

Too cautious and wary not to consider the Algerian position that the conflict involves only Morocco and the POLISARIO, whose place can be taken by no one in the negotiations, Col Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, chief of state since the "reorganization" of the Military Committee for National Salvation (CMSN) on 12 December, was not as categorical. Meeting with us on 17 February, he nevertheless also expressed his hopes for peace thanks to the coming together of leaders from the region. "We have given our consent to an unconditional Maghrebian summit conference, but we believe that there should be an agenda announced in advance."

Good Will

Obviously, Rabat and Algiers are trying to persuade African and Western opinion that they are acting in good faith and that if the preliminary talks come to nothing, it will be because of the other side's intransigence. Outside of a consensus on a family meeting between enemy brothers with the dean of the Maghreb, President Bourguiba, can there be decisive progress on the substance of the quarrel? "One can exclude nothing," says President Tayr without making a move.

As far as it is concerned, Mauritania wants to follow a policy of balance and neutrality, whatever the evolution of the situation in the north. "When we came to power," President Tair continues, "we sent good will missions to normalize our relations with our neighbors in the Greater Maghreb (Morocco and Libya). In the days ahead, air relations with Morocco will be restored. We continue to have contact on the subject of the reopening of embassies."

The break with Morocco under the preceding regime did not really interrupt secular relations between the two peoples. Numbering about 100, Moroccan professors remained in Mauritania and over a thousand Mauritanian students remained in Morocco. Commercial trade with southern Morocco had already decreased when Mauritania left the franc zone in view of the creation of a national currency and foreign exchange control, but, by going through the Canary Islands, wealthy Mauritians continued to do shopping and make family visits to Morocco.

On the other hand, recognition of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic did not result in the opening of an embassy in Nouakchott or even of an office like those existing in some countries. The only Saharans who could see the inhabitants of the capital were those who came to buy large quantities of meat using "new bills." The people, whose feelings about the POLISARIO are reserved, to say the least, even accuse the former official responsible for distributing international food aid of diverting part of that aid to the Saharans. The new chief of state assured us that such accusations were made up, but the ease with which they spread reveals the bad memories left here by the POLISARIO raids on Nouakchott at the beginning of the conflict.

A proud people, the Moors had difficulty tolerating the humiliation and are ticklish about questions of sovereignty, even concerning the slightest piece of their vast and desert territory. Mauritanian newsmen asked us whether one might not fear that an agreement between Algeria and Morocco "would come about at the expense of Mauritania," dispossessed of part of its soil for the establishment of a Saharan entity on only a piece of the old Spanish Sahara shared with Morocco. Dreams, undoubtedly, but revealing.

Sovereignty first of all means making the POLISARIO respect the border. Even before the palace revolution of 12 December, small Saharan military units were being regularly taken to the north, without a fight, but firmly. On the other hand, Saharans "in civilian dress" came to buy food in the border regions that are quite difficult to control along their entire length. The new regime affirms its neutrality with more determination. Is it possible militarily to have it respected when the progression of the Moroccan "walls" makes the POLISARIO's room to maneuver smaller and smaller?

President Taya, who has every interest in ensuring that his country does not figure in the front line of combat, even under protest, assured us that many false ideas were being spread on the subject. Of course, between Mauritania and Amgala, the closest point to the Moroccan wall, lie only a few kilometers, but in a rugged region with wadi beds, allowing nocturnal passage without violating the border. "The wall is an obstacle, but it is not the Maginot line," he says.

French Deterrent

The defense agreements denounced by former President Ould Daddah, at a time when, encouraged by Algeria, he remained aloof from Paris, are being replaced by a military cooperation agreement by virtue of which several dozen French officers and noncommissioned officers are now serving in Mauritanian uniform (without mentioning some 30 military doctors available to the Ministry of Health). There are 70 NCO's serving as instructors at the Atar Armed Forces Military School, 5 naval officers or technicians helping the fleet, backed by 7 small boats in Nouadhibou and 6 officers or noncommissioned officers working with the gendarmerie. The number of such personnel has doubled in the past 2 years.

A few French officers are being called upon to work as technical advisers in certain key ministries. This was enough to make people say that the events of 12 December could not have taken place without France's consent. Speculation was fueled by three facts: the presence in France of the former commanding officer of the gendarmerie at the time of that which, lacking resistance by supporters of former President Haidalla, was not a real coup d'etat; the gratuitous stay in Senegal of several wives of French diplomats "to protect them in case of danger"; and France's supplying of the Caravelle for Haidalla, whom "Paris wanted to get out of Bujumbura at the time of the French-African summit conference."

While admitting that there is a set of circumstances likely to cause talk, there is no difficulty showing, with respect to France, that such accusations stem from African political fiction, since the men belonging to the CMSN are not the type to go seeking foreign aid to settle their affairs.

More serious is the matter of knowing what Paris would do if Mauritania were attacked on its borders. France guaranteed the integrity of its ally at a time when Morocco was threatening to exercise its right of pursuit during operations against the POLISARIO. Would this guarantee also be valid if the intruder were the POLISARIO itself? How would the French promise be translated into action? The response is vague and that vagueness contributes to the "deterrent," one official says.

It was also for the purpose of maintaining that protective vagueness that Mauritania did not deny information having to do with the surveillance of its territory by French planes based in Dakar. The reality, given the current state of affairs, is that if French military planes are flying over Mauritania, it is because that country is on the air route between France and Senegal.

If the situation in the Sahara should grow worse, would French soldiers be involved in the fighting alongside an army to which Paris is not linked by any proper defense agreement? France assures that this is purely academic, since not one soldier is north of Atar. The role of France, they say, is limited to instruction and the reorganization of the army. It is on this basis that French soldiers are trying to initiate their Mauritanian colleagues into the use of Soviet cannons once furnished by Algeria with a shipment of parachutes.

Internal Affair

Even if plenty of people in Nouakchott say that the balance will in the future be better respected between Algiers and Rabat and despite the difficult nature of this exercise, President Taya guards against any remark that might make one think that the pro-Moroccans have won out over the pro-Algerians. The reorganization of 12 December is presented as an internal affair. It was a matter of better managing the country, of putting an end to corruption and arbitrary action. A few cases of torture have been revealed, more due to the excesses of certain officers than to systematic instructions from the old government. But there were over 200 political prisoners in the prisons, all freed after 12 December. Only five former officials were arrested and Haidalla is under house arrest in a provincial villa.

The former president, who learned of his ouster in Burundi, was not a man to join the vulgar horde of fallen dictators living in some gilded exile. He returned home, where he was welcomed in an honorable fashion as he got off the plane. The former commanding officer of the gendarmerie had the same attitude: "It is not very likely that my predecessor will be brought before the courts for the misappropriation of funds," President Taya told us, little inclined to dwell on all the accusations made against a man whose principal fault was his poor choice of aides. The chief of state frowned when we brought up a number of complaints formulated by overly zealous ralliers. The concern for dignity prevailing in relations with their neighbors is also observed by Mauritians in their own family affairs. That is what makes their country, so tragically impoverished, so touching.

[6 Mar 85 p 7]

[Text] Mauritania is determined to enforce its sovereignty, whatever the evolution of the Saharan conflict in which it remains neutral (LE MONDE, 5 March). Facing a difficult economic situation, President Taya, brought to power on 12 December, must take emergency measures.

Nouakchott--Mauritania is not one of those countries in which observers must decipher the intentions of the government by reading the enigmatic and shifty editorials in the official press. When it has a plan or a problem it presents it without ulterior motives or complexes to diplomats from friendly nations.

Thus it was that a minister recently explained to several ambassadors that it would be necessary to administer to the Mauritians the difficult medicine to swallow prescribed by the IMF for any poor, indebted country wishing to remedy the situation. The prices of basic food products will be increased, a necessary but disagreeable decision to announced to the people for a team that just came to power. The minister therefore expressed the hope that donor countries would increase their aid distributed free of cost by a Mauritanian commissioner's office for help to the neediest people.

Shortly thereafter, limousines flying West German, American and other flags unloaded their excellencies at the French Embassy for a meeting of concertation.

The American had reservations about the principle of free aid, but the European ambassadors, led by the French, transmitted the request to their government with their approval.

End of Nomads

"Please say that we thank our brother and friendly countries, Western or Arab, for their generous aid," President Maaouiyr Ould Sid Ahmed Taya told us with the simplicity of a great lord or rather, of a "great tent," as they say in this country of nomads. Shortly after his accession to power, he sent the No 2 man of the regime to Paris carrying a message tardily sent to President Mitterrand, who had suddenly left for New Caledonia on the day scheduled for the meeting. Despite that reverse, the presidential response to a request for increased cooperation was "clear and satisfactory" in all domains.

On 12 and 13 March, under the aegis of the World Bank, Paris hosted a meeting of Mauritania's creditors for a consolidation and rescheduling of the debt. Mauritania has not responded definitively to the request to devalue the national currency formulated by the IMF, but it has begun to let it float, the first step toward realism. Saudi capital, less abundant recently -- probably at the instigation of Morocco, unhappy with the preceding regime -- will return. Westerners are willing to wipe out certain debts as soon as austerity, even unpopular, is the order of the day.

On the road one takes to go to Rosso on the Senegal River, daybreak, when the blowing sand does not turn the region into a hell, is spectacular. The camels stand out against the great square tents with the blue geometric designs of the nomads. A harmony of movement, form and color: Could we have finally found a Third World people, poor, but not wallowing in the squalor of shantytowns? Minister of Information Ghnahalla removes all illusion: "The nomadic people are gradually disappearing, unfortunately! Driven out by the drought, the people are going south. There is already a demi-settlement visible along the roads, where help can arrive. The tents are still there, but they are no longer the scene of activity. People are settling down. It is not yet citification, but it is no longer real nomadic life either. Soon the tents will give way to corrugated metal roofing and parpen."

Today, over 80 percent of the people have settled down, at best, in some oasis; at worst, and this is the rule, on the edge of the big cities. Nearly a third of the 1.8 million Mauritaniens live in the Nouakchott region. A few dozen kilometers from the capital, on the Nema route, bulldozers are doing the work of Sisyphus to drive back the "live dunes," an eloquent expression designating dunes which the wind deposits back on the roadway in a matter of hours.

The Tunisian head of an FAO mission, doing studies in the field aimed at making the dunes stationary, tells us with conviction what it will perhaps be possible to do thanks to a kind of dam made of fiberglass panels. We are at the top of the experimental site. Opposite us, the dunes are like the waves of an unleashed ocean. We wish we could share the optimism of the FAO, but the sight makes one think. "One cannot fight the desert with the means Mauritania has," says another foreigner quite up on the matter. "The truth, despite official discourse, which cannot say otherwise, is that the northern region

of the country is irreversibly being emptied of its population, which is moving toward the steppe in the center or the savanna in the south."

The drought that has gone on for 10 years has played its role in this exodus. No one here remembers any drought as long or widespread. Realists believe that this succession of years without water has shown that the nomadic life, however enticing it may be in many ways, has contributed to the disaster. When vegetation is not renewed following the natural cycle, the herds devastate everything irreversibly, definitively destroying the meager plant life before going elsewhere to wreak their damage.

Crayfish or Camel

The herds are decimated; grain production has dropped from 120,000 tons in the early 1960's to 20,000 tons in 1984. Achievements presented as exemplary, such as the M'Pourie farm with its rice plantations irrigated by the Senegal River, are not very impressive. They arise out of pious hopes, the purely abstract, for the purpose of supplying subject matter for university theses or articles printed on glossy paper by the journals of international institutions.

The paradox is that this population, which has so much difficulty producing its food, has territorial waters among the richest in the world and yet does not take advantage of the resource. "The Moors do not like the sea or fish," notes one official in the Fishing Ministry. "Foreigners take advantage of this. Our waters are now being looted in an operation equalled only by what is happening off the coast of Namibia. The Soviet fleet is particularly good at this actual theft. This scandal must be reported to the United Nations. In the meantime, since they are talking about the Greater Maghreb, why not a law of the sea convention among North African countries?"

Breton fishermen can be seen in large numbers off the coast of Mauritania, taking in tuna and crayfish, but respecting agreements made with the country. France trains the small navy, which is trying to patrol the national coastline, but its means are not up to the task, given the tranquil cynicism of the intruders.

In 1975, Mauritania thought it could find in the granting of fishing licenses a complement to its foreign exchange resources, essentially made up of iron and copper mines. The experiment was largely inconclusive and it is now seeking fiscal income in the marketing of fish, which in principle is loaded at Nouadhibou. In order for fishing to constitute over 20 percent of the GNP, the current official figure, one would obviously have to develop canneries and modify food habits.

One of Paris' Dancers

Every 11 November, the French ambassador attends a military ceremony in Nouakchott honoring those who have died for their country in all wars, a ceremony attended by many Mauritaniais who receive veterans' pensions. The diplomat reviews the Mauritanian troops, in whose ranks are fellow countrymen wearing the uniform of another country. The Marseillaise is played along with the national anthem.

Americans in Mauritania do not understand this kind of paternalism. If one presses them a little, they express their real thoughts: The Mauritania inherited from colonialism is not visible economically. It is but one of France's dancers in Africa.

Mauritania, a vast territory with borders that look as if they had been drawn with rulers on the map of colonial administrators, does indeed start with a handicap. If it has trouble overcoming its economic problems, it nevertheless provides proof that as far as human problems are concerned, the worst is not always sure. According to official figures, the population is made up of two-thirds Moors and one-third Black Africans. Actually, the "minorities" are multiplying more rapidly and the day when the groups are equal is not far off. It is a situation that could become explosive. It is taboo to speak of it, as one can see when the subject is brought up with the friendliest host, who tenses slightly. For the time being, nevertheless, the problem has been staved off thanks to a skillful balance in the administration and the army and to a spirit of mutual tolerance.

Luck has had it that the entire population is Muslim, without a national Catholic community, even in the south. Relations with Senegal are good; traffic is constant at Rosso on the ferries using the river. Suspicions that Mauritania might have nourished concerning the "powerful" neighbor have disappeared since President Diouf succeeded Senghor, whose militant "negritude" was sometimes irritating.

Islam is the mortar of populations of different colors and ways of life. French is the language of communication between an Arabic-speaking northern and central region and a south in which Ouolof, the language of Senegal reigns. In Nouakchott, apparently, no officials have any complexes about it.

11,464

CSO: 4519/121

MAURITANIA

BRIEFS

MAURITANIAN STUDENT DEMONSTRATION--Moscow, 27 Mar (AFP)--Fifteen Mauritanian students gathered in front of the Mauritania embassy in Moscow on Wednesday for several hours to protest against the nonpayment of their scholarships for 2 years. The spokesman for the students, Salem Ould Lemrabott, told AFP that the embassy had not paid their scholarships since 1983, and that they had been refused entry into the chancery, which is guarded by three militiamen. Mr Salem Ould Lemrabott added that 50 students, who completed their studies a month ago, cannot return to Nouakchott due to lack of money to pay for the transportation of their luggage, as their plane fare is being paid by the Soviet authorities. There are about 350 Mauritanian students in the USSR in several universities. An embassy spokesman said that they receive a scholarship from the Soviet government amounting to 95 roubles, (about Fr 1,000) a month. Until October 1984 they had a monthly bonus of Fr300 paid by Mauritania which, according to the embassy, has been paid to them, but the students contest this. [Text] [AB271725 Paris AFP in French 1454 GMT 27 Mar 85]

CSO: 4500/83

MOROCCO

RABAT CARRIES KING HASSAN INTERVIEW

LD121348 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Apr 85

["Text" of interview granted by King Hassan II to Italian pressman--recorded; place and date not given; identity of pressman not given]

[Excerpts] [Pressman] Your Majesty, on arriving here we have noticed the preoccupations of Moroccan officials with the enlargement of the EEC, with the point at issue being the threat that such an enlargement might represent to Moroccan exports to Europe and the possibility of the transfer of these exports to Eastern bloc, namely the Soviet camp. Does such a threat really exist?

[King Hassan] Yes, there is a preoccupation in Morocco with Spain and Portugal joining the EEC; it is a legitimate preoccupation and I believe that Italy for example, if it had not been an EEC member, would have its own preoccupations concerning its production and especially its agricultural production. The situation in which we are going to find ourselves will have some negative repercussions on Morocco in the short term, but in the long term it is Europe that will have preoccupations and problems. For I believe that Europe's strategic depth is the Mediterranean and Africa, and whether we like it or not, the strategic depth of Europe is the African continent via North Africa. And as I always say, a Europe with 6 states is more difficult than a Europe with 13 countries; it is the beginning that is more difficult.

When the number of member states exceeds 6 to become 7 states, then 9, then 10, then 12, things become easier than with 6 member-states. I will not lose hope of seeing our European partners understand the full meaning of Morocco's request to join the EEC. It is a political, economic, social and geopolitical preoccupation, and I intend to speak about this matter tomorrow with Italian Foreign Minister Andreotti, given the fact that Italy is currently the chairman of the EEC.

As for redirecting our products to the Soviet camp, this in my opinion would be a mistake, not at the ideological level, but it would be a terrible mistake on the economic and financial levels, the point being that every country, if it wants to be able to compete, must diversify its markets and production. We will naturally continue to export our products to Europe because the markets will not be closed in their face, but when you speak about the East you should speak about the East and the Middle East countries too. [sentence as heard]

Lastly, this will be a sort of adventure for a few years, but I believe this requires patience, from us, and we are relying on the friendship and understanding of our European friends and on the time factor, because I believe that time will show the correctness of our viewpoint.

[Pressman] Is there a solution, a proposal or a particular idea that you will put to Mr Andreotti to look for a solution to the problem of competition with Spain and Portugal?

[King Hassan] We have two preoccupations, and there are maybe two parallel approaches, the first being to start an intensive campaign in the press and to present explanations to persuade others about our thesis for joining; second approach, which I think can be put into practice, is to get closely acquainted, pending the acceptance of the request to join, with the measures that one must take to face up to negative repercussions. I believe that, with a little close consideration and understanding, we will realize our objectives.

[Pressman] Your Majesty; there is the idea of the request to join the EEC is a sort of provocation.

[King Hassan] Yes, this may appear as seeking difficulties in posing some issues, but it is not a provocation. The causes behind our request to join are not necessarily economic ones. The EEC is basically a political option, and I personally believe that Morocco, given its political and constitutional options, and the pluralism of parties and trade unions and the public liberties mentioned by its laws, is presently considered to be the closest country to the EEC member states from among the non-European countries bordering the Mediterranean. Morocco has chosen life marked by liberalism, and furthermore, from the geographical point of view it is regarded as closer to Europe than Greece.

When the bridge is built over the Gibraltar Strait--we hope that it will be done in some 8 years--and when traffic increases on the bridge, when pipelines are laid under it, when we think about the wealth of Africa, I believe that the entire world will then realize why I have said that the choice was a political one. It is the choice of the future, and I am convinced that we will succeed surely in the long term. But we must be patient. [passage omitted: King Hassan expresses optimism about closer cooperation between the Maghreb countries in the future because there are no insuperable differences between them.]

[Pressman] Do you support the holding of a referendum on the Sahara?

[King Hassan] Not only do I support the holding of a referendum but I demand it, I ask for it every day. As I said at the UN, I personally pledged and-- I repeat this--through me the entire Moroccan people pledge to respect the results of the referendum whatever they may be.

[Pressman] Who exactly will take part in the referendum?

[King Hassan] This problem was settled at the OAU Naribo summit in 1981. At the beginning we defined even the geographical area in which the referendum

would be held. This was done through the OAU. We also defined the following conditions: everyone born in a specific town or village must vote in the town or village where he was born, which would prevent any fraud given that a number of people at the head of the Polisario or the Saharan Republic would have no right to vote because they were not born in the Sahara. [passage omitted: King Hassan says that the President of the Sdar was born in Morocco in 1945]

[Pressman] I want now to tackle the Arab-African treaty that you concluded last summer with Col al-Qadhafi. This treaty affected relations between Morocco and the United States, concerning the Saharan War and the balance within the OAU. I want to know whether some tensions still exist with the Reagan administration, that showed surprise at this treaty?

[King Hassan] One must say that as far as the American officials are concerned the timing was not convenient for them. The United States was on the threshold of the elections, and as a result, everything was blown out of proportion. Morocco decides its policies in accordance with its circumstances and not by proceeding from the circumstances of its friends, even if the United States is concerned. Second, Morocco takes into account its own interests in deciding its policies, and Morocco's interest, in my view, was the concluding of the treaty of union that was neither an integration union, nor a confederation, nor a federation. It is a treaty of union between two states, a sort of marriage, if you like, provided for by international law. Finally, we were faced with the Algerian-Tunisian-Mauritanian treaty.

I also believe that by concluding the treaty of union with Libya we simply contributed to the construction of the Arab Maghreb. The Arab-African union treaty is not directed against any Maghreb country, nor is it against the idea of an Arab Maghreb. Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania began with the middle and we began with the two wings.

When tension is lessened, I believe that by merging the two treaties and with all that unites Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania, and with all that unites Morocco and Libya, we will build a coordinated edifice. But at any rate, the treaty is not directed against anyone. Besides, Morocco has the right to adopt the policy that accords with its own interests. I believe that in so doing Morocco acts in accordance with its own interests.

[Pressman] Your Majesty, do you believe that the Libyan president respects and implements this treaty satisfactorily, and are you satisfied with the way this treaty is being implemented?

[King Hassan] I am very pleased with the way this treaty is being implemented, and so far one can say that there is a positive interpretation in the framework of the links of the union treaty. I must also say that your Libyan friends, from Col al-Qadhafi to the most modest executive staff, are carrying their role in the best of ways and with the greatest share of responsibility and correctness.

[Pressman] Your Majesty, what do you think of the suggestion made by Mr Bechir Ben Yahmed concerning a federation between the Saharan Republic and Mauritania?

[King Hassan] Who said that?

[Pressman] This came in an editorial by Mr Bechir Yen Yahmed in the magazine JEUNE AFRIQUE, an editorial that has become extremely controversial.

[King Hassan] I think it is a good idea. The Saharan Republic should then go and establish itself in Mauritania if it wants. As to its entering into a federation with another state, it must first have a territory, and the Saharan Republic has no territory and has no borders. The Polisario is not even recorded as a liberation movement in Africa. In my opinion one could write a book on this issue and call it: The Fraud of the Century. The issue of the Polisario and the Saharan Republic is a big swindle and history will speak one day on this fraud.

[Pressman] From a European point of view the problem of the Arab Maghreb is cold. Al-Qadhdhafi. Can the treaty existing between Morocco and Libya help us at this time when Italy is threatened officially by the aid allocated to terrorism?

[King Hassan] You know that Italy has numerous interests in Libya; there are numerous Italians in Libya and you are Libya's first trading partner. I believe that Italy can also play the role of moderator. I always wonder whether Col al-Qadhdhafi is really helping all the international terrorist movements. In such a case the man would be everywhere in the world. I believe that you are exaggerating things, because in such a case there are then no other secret services in the world except those of Col al-Qadhdhafi. [passage omitted: Journalist says that the king shares Andreotti's view rejecting the distorted transatlantic image given to al-Qadhdhafi. The king says that often security services wrongly blame al-Qadhdhafi when failing to find culprits]

[Pressman] What is the correct view that the western world should hold about Libya?

[King Hassan] I do not think that there must be a comprehensive way to deal with Col al-Qadhdhafi. I think that one should follow a bilateral method in dealing with him. There should, for instance, be contact between Italy and Libya and between Libya and France and Germany. The belief that problems can be solved in an overall way is wrong. I think that such a solution cannot succeed. At the psychological level, Col al-Qadhdhafi is a man with whom problems should be discussed in private and in a bilateral way. This is his way; I am not justifying his action but I am just explaining it. [passage omitted: King Hassan says that Andreotti's view about al-Qadhdhafi is correct; he says that Italy's policy in the Mediterranean is logical and Morocco would welcome any Italian help in settling issues between Morocco and Algeria. He recalls that Morocco was a founder member of the nonaligned movement. On the Mideast problem King Hassan recalls that the FES summit resolutions were the only ones to gain Arab consensus and they must thus always be considered in the search for a solution. The Lebanese question was created to distract Arabs from the main question, the Arab-Israeli conflict, King Hassan says. He affirms that Israel is serving neither its own interests, nor U.S. nor Soviet interests. On the situation in Sudan, King Hassan stresses its strategic

position in Africa. On the postponement of the Arab-African Foreign Ministers Conference in Tripoli he says that this was due to the Saharan problem. King Hassan then stresses the absence of religious sectarian strife in the Arab Maghred.]

[Pressman] Do you think that the United States is going to assume a more efficient role concerning the Middle East problem, and that it will reinforce its presence in the region?

[King Hassan] In the present circumstances there is a feeling that America is preoccupied with a number of dossiers other than the Middle East one. Why is this? Perhaps what happened in Lebanon made it to retreat, but in such a case the error is that of America itself. Personally I have on several occasions told our American friends at the highest level: do not get involved in Lebanon; resolve the overall problem and the Lebanon question will be resolved in the context of the settlement of the overall problem. You want to resolve the Lebanese problem but by this you would not resolve any problem. This happened in the past and it is happening now.

After their disappointment in the Middle East, the Americans do not know how to tackle the issue anew. At any rate we Arabs are prepared to extend our hand to them, to make the question clear to them and to try to normalize the situation. But one must be realistic; it is not possible to imagine a final settlement to the Middle East conflict without the Soviet Union. Without such an agreement, the participation and the presence of the Soviet Union, there will be no peace in the Middle East, because geography rules politics. Washington is 12,000 km away from Syria while Syria is only a few hundred kilometers from Moscow. In this region the Soviet Union cannot be ignored. Trying to resolve the Middle East question without the Soviet Union is like trying to resolve the problem of Nicaragua with the Soviet Union and not with the United States. This, in my opinion, is not very wise. [passage omitted: On Europe's role in solving the Mideast question, King Hassan says that Europe has been inactive since the Venice communique but it should make a move for it has friends in the region. He says he cannot judge the new rulers in Sudan but thinks they will follow Numayri's line. King Hassan stresses the difficulty of ending the Iraq-Iran War due to Iran's demand for the removal of Saddam. He stresses the UAE's balanced policy between Iraq and Iran and says that the U.S. invitation to Israel to take part in the star wars program is logical because Israel is to the United States what Cuba is to the Soviet Union. Without U.S. food aid the Israelis will find nothing to eat. King Hassan again stresses need for the Europeans to help in resolving the Mideast issue.]

CSO: 4500/85

MOROCCO

ROYAL EMISSARIES RETURN FROM ARAB-AFRICAN TOURS

LD081354 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Marrakech, April 8 (MAP)--Mr Ahmed Bensouda, advisor to King Hassan II of Morocco and emissary of the monarch flew home Friday evening after a tour in several Arab and African countries.

This tour is part of the Moroccan campaign to explain the reasons of the postponement of the Arabo-African conference that was to be scheduled in Tripoli, Libya.

The royal emissary had thus visited North Yemen, South Yemen, Somalia and Djibouti, and met with the leaders of these countries to whom he delivered messages from the monarch.

Other royal emissaries entrusted with the same mission are continuing their tour in Arab and African countries. Thus, the director general of the Rabat-based Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) left Baghdad Sunday afternoon after he delivered a message from the monarch to the president of Iraq, Mr Saddam Husayn.

In a departure statement, Mr Boutaleb said the royal message was part of the coordination between the monarch and the Iraqi president and the exchange of views on current issues, notably those relating to the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, Morocco's stance and its wish to put an end to this conflict.

Mr Boutaleb had visited Amman on Saturday and conveyed a message to King Husayn of Jordan.

The message dealt with the latest developments of the situation in the Arab world and issues of common interest.

On his part, Dr Azeddine Laraki, Moroccan minister of national education, flew in Damascus on Sunday evening coming from Kuwait where he conveyed a similar message to the Emir of Kuwait, Shaykh al-Jabir al-Ahmad. The message dealt with the reasons that led to the postponement of the Arabo-African conference in Tripoli.

Dr Laraki had earlier visited Bahrain and Qatar where he conveyed similar messages.

In Gbadolite (region of the Equator), the president of Zaire, Mobutu Sese Seko, Friday received Mr Driss Slaoui [map spelling], adviser to King Hassan II.

MOROCCO

BRIEFS

KING HASSAN RECEIVES TUNISIAN OFFICIAL--MAP 26-27 Marrakech--King Hassan II received Hedi Baccouche [spelling as received] minister-delegate to the Tunisian prime minister and director of the Socialist Destour Party, in Marrakesh (southern Morocco) on Monday. The audience took place in the presence of M'Hamed Boucetta, secretary general of the Istiqlal Party (PBI), and Abderrahim Bouabid [spelling as received], first secretary of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces (USFP), as well as the king's adviser, Ahmed Reda Guedira. Hedi Baccouche is in Morocco for talks with Boucetta and Bouabid. Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani received Hedi Baccouche in Rabat on Monday prior to the royal audience. The meeting, which follows from last Friday's talks, was devoted to listing and evaluating Moroccan-Tunisian agreements in various fields with a view to giving a boost to the two fraternal countries' bilateral cooperation. The two sides again analyzed in depth the ways and means for defining a joint position towards the European Economic Community. [Text] [LD151821 Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 15 Apr 85]

RELATIONS WITH MEXICO--Madrid, March--Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information Abdellatif Filali made an exclusive statement on Monday to Mexican television during his visit to the Spanish capital. "The establishment of diplomatic relations with the Latin American countries and primarily with Mexico is one of the Moroccan government's priorities," Mr Abdellatif Filali told Maria Elena Rico Covarrubias, Mexican television's correspondent in Spain on Monday. "I would like to tell you," he added, "that Mexico has a good image in Morocco thanks to the friendly relations which exist between prominent Moroccans and Mexicans. I personally have very good relations with the Mexican leaders. I am convinced that in the very near future we will establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level." This brief statement by Foreign Affairs and information Minister Abdellatif Filali was broadcast on Tuesday on the 24 Hours News Program, which is broadcast by Univision and watched by 80 million viewers--60 million in Mexico and 20 million Spanish speaking people in the United States. [Text] [PM121344 Casablanca LE MATIN DU SAHARA in French 27 Mar 85 p 1]

CSO: 4500/85

SUDAN

SUDAN CLANDESTINE TO EXPOSE MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD PARTY

GF141316 (Clandestine) Voice of Sudanese Popular Revolution in Arabic 1000 GMT
14 Apr 85

[Text] O masses of our proud Sudanese people. O sons of October and April. There have been reports that the party of the U.S. CIA known as the Muslim Brotherhood of Hasan al-Turabi, the ruling party of the defunct regime of Ja'far Numayri, organized a demonstration yesterday in which Hasan al-Turabi chanted slogans calling for the restoration of the Shari'a of America's Islam in Sudan and for returning Sudan once again into a May [reference to Numayri regime] slaughterhouse.

In view of this serious report which has harmful implications for national unity the Voice of the Sudanese Popular Revolution announces that it will open the file of the party of the U.S. CIA that is the Muslim Brotherhood of Hasan al-Turabi, and the file of the Sudanese reactionaries who have thrown themselves into the lap of imperialism, Zionism, and Arab reactionaries. We will also open the file of 21 October 1964 and show how the October movement was usurped by the bourgeois, partisan, and agent Sudanese reactionaries. We will also open the file of the party of the CIA and its leader Hasan al-Turabi and we will rebroadcast the Friday talks of the brother 'Abdallah Zakariya Idris, secretary general of the Socialist Popular Sudanese Front--Popular Committees Movement. We will also rebroadcast material by the Musaylimah [a false prophet, name of a contemporary of the first caliphs who claimed to be prophet after him] of the 20th century, Ja'far Numayri, who was appointed by Hasan al-Turabi as a caliph and an Imam of Muslims, as well as other material in this regard.

As we open the file of Sudanese reactionaries we affirm our principled stand in supporting national unity represented by the alliance of the people's armed forces, the trade unions, and national [wataniyah], pan-Arab [qawmiyah], and progressive political parties in northern and southern Sudan which by their unity and anxiousness to preserve the higher national interests constitute the only safeguard for marching on the October-April path.

We alert our brothers in the beloved south to the fact that the masses of 6 April are the best guarantee for crushing the traitors in the party of the U.S. CIA led by the agent Hasan al-Turabi.

Forward, the revolutionary struggles.

SUDAN

AL-SAHFAH CALLS FOR FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS

EA121038 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1520 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] In the "Free Opinions" column and under the heading: "Where did you get this?" AL-SAHFAH newspaper said: After the October revolution of 1964, investigators found out that all that compromised the leaders of the November revolution of 1958 was an unpaid bill from the Salaries Office for the sum of 600 Sudanese pounds to one of the members of the government. Regardless of what was said about his policies, the late President Abbud was exemplary in abstinence and honesty. He does not need any proof from us, because all the people know that.

Plundering, looting, corrupt use of influence and bribery was not known in a universal way in Sudan until the days of Numayri and his cronies. These acts began to spread widely after 1973 with the coming of loans and development plans. Nobody knew the volume of debts which weighed heavily on Sudan until the Bank of Sudan distributed a publication to the finance and loan organizations of the world to calculate Sudan's debts which amounted to 9 billion [unit unspecified]. The people want to know where all the money has gone.

We used to hear rumors about commissions, embezzlements and the corrupt use of influence. It is now time to collect the documents, take inventories of what is left in the vaults and find out what happened to the taxpayers money, the grants and loans. Into what secret accounts have they been deposited in Swiss and American banks? It is the right of the Sudanese people to know the facts. It is their right to demand that the thieves will be handed over so that they will be tried according to international law, just as Iran did after the Shah ran away. We may not recover all the stolen money but we should try our best to recover some of the people's money by applying the principle, where did you get this? Or the principle of forbidden wealth.

Those who became wealthy by lawful means should not be treated with suspicion. There must be full adherence to the law, but looted property must be recovered in accordance with justice. We should investigate those who became wealthy by unlawful means right now, otherwise the evidence or documents may be destroyed. No right is lost as long as there is someone who will look after it.

CSO: 4500/88

SUDAN

SUDANESE PARTIES ABROAD WATCH KHARTOUM DEVELOPMENTS

GF081750 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 7 Apr 85 pp 1, 19

[Article by Muhammad Nurani]

[Text] AL-BAYAN has learned from reliable sources that a four-member committee has been formed in Khartoum, whose basic function will be to make contacts with all associations and parties for the purpose of consultation in preparation for the coming democratic stage.

The committee includes Major General Muhammad al-Baqir Ahmad; Lieutenant General Yusuf Ahmad Yusuf; General Taj al-Din 'abdallah; and General Tawfiq Salih Khalil.

The first meeting, to include representatives of all Sudanese parties abroad following the overthrow of Numayri, has been held in London.

In a telephone conversation with AL-BAYAN during the meeting, Al-Baqir Ahmad 'abdallah, representative of the Democratic Party, stated that representatives of the Party of the Nation; the Sudanese Communist Party; the organization of progressive in the United Kingdom and Ireland; the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement; and the Democratic Federal Party are in permanent session in order to discuss the situation in Sudan and evaluate all new developments.

He said that all the participants in the meeting are convinced that democratic rule is the real solution for all the accumulated problems of the Sudanese people, and that they support the new officers if they are serious and have the intention to restore democracy to the country. They bless the step which they have made and support it.

However, if the alternative is merely another "general," then they will not desert their positions. Moreover, a joint working committee has been formed whose duty is to lead an information campaign which aims at exposing any news blackout attempt.

The representative of the Democratic Federal Party--in whose house the meeting was held--lauded Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's stand and his declaration that he will not intervene in the internal affairs of the Sudanese people. He described this stand as positive, and as expressing the historical relations between Egypt and Sudan. It is a stand which preserves those relations and gives them more depth and dimension, he said.

Commenting on the formation of the four-member committee in Khartoum, the representative of the Democratic Federal Party said that the duty of the committee is to make contacts with the political parties in order to establish a national government after the 6-month [transitional] period. He said: We will continue to watch the work of the committee. We are convinced that only the masses are capable of providing the guarantee for the return of democracy. We assume that the formation of the committee was done in good will. We are optimistic toward it and we will work with it to restore democracy to our country.

CSO: 4500/88

SUDAN

SPLM, SUDAN CP, DUP COMMENT ON CARETAKER GOVERNMENT

LD142040 Kuwait KUNA in English 1748 GMT 14 Apr 85

[Spelling of names within parentheses as received]

[Text] [passage indistinct] [Dr Bernaba] Benjamin assured KUNA in a telephone statement his movement will not negotiate with Siwar-al-Dhahab and will not receive the envoy he was dispatching to open talks with them, but said the SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] will maintain contacts and consultations "with the unions alliance in the higher interests of the nation."

He claimed that deposed President Ja'far Numayri had offered the movement leader John Garang the post of first vice president and six cabinet seats but that Garang rejected the offer "because we are not against the person of Numayri but against the whole regime."

The spokesman warned that the military arm of the movement, (SPLA) will resume fighting the Sudanese Army in the south next Tuesday when the week-long period the movement granted the military in Khartoum to return to power in full to the civilians, expires.

The political parties and professional and trade union in Khartoum have repeatedly appealed to the SPLM to respond to the military council call and join the national alliance and the care-taker government to resolve all the country's chronic ills.

The spokesman of the communist party said, on his part, that the candidates for premiership of the civilian transitional government currently negotiated in Khartoum "lack sufficient experience and called for immediate abrogation of the defense pact with Egypt. [quote marks as received]

Dr ['Izz-al-Din 'ali 'Amir), central committee member of the communist party told KUNA over the phone that the names suggested for premiership in the year-long transitional period lack political maturity needed at this crucial year.

The prime minister in the caretaker cabinet "should be a man of long political experience to tackle the economic collapse and famine problems in addition to correcting the course of foreign policy," he added.

The communist leader criticised the military council for refusing a civilian sovereignty council and insisting on exercising legislation and suggested, as a compromise, a liaison between the caretaker government and the military council.

But the communist spokesman was not forthful in offering substitutes to the doctors union President Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah and bar association President Mirghani al-Nasri who were named possible candidates for the post which all parties and unions agreed should be held by a politically non-committed personality.

Tentative agreement reached by the parties and unions with the military council put composition of the 16-man cabinet at five for the parties, six for the unions and three for the south with the army holding the defense and interior portfolios.

Today's scheduled meeting with the military to agree on the final list of the caretaker government was put off for tomorrow for further discussions.

Dr ('Izz-al-Din), who was exiled by Numayri in 1972 following the abortive communist coup of July 1971, said the joint defense pact "was signed by deposed President Numayri to protect his regime and must be abolished now because its validity jeopardises relations between the Sudanese and Egyptian people."

He elaborated that he was voicing such concern in spite of the fact known to all that the communist party "has always emphasised the privileged historic ties with Egypt."

Speaking from exile in Liverpool, Dr (Izz-Eddin) also called for abolition of all laws imposed by ousted President Numayri during his 16-year rule and renewed the demand for extradition and trial of Numayri in Khartoum.

The spokesman for the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) denied reports of differences within the party as was apparent in the emergence of two delegations in the negotiations for a caretaker government in the national alliance.

(Al-Baqir Ahmad 'Abdallah) said "16 years of military dictatorship have left its marks on politics in the country and new circumstances have emerged for which all efforts should be mobilised.

Reports from Khartoum have indicated that the Democratic Unionist Party, which is merger of the Khatmiyah sect People's Democratic Party (PDP) and National Unionist Party (NUP) back in 1964, have again split into two delegations representing the PDP and the NUP.

('Abdallah) said the DUP is "united under the spiritual leadership of (Khatmiyah sect leader) (Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani) and the political leadership of (Zayn-al-'Abidin al-Hindi)" and that preparations are being made for a party congress in the coming few days.

SUDAN

CLANDESTINE SUDANESE: SEND DELEGATION TO LIBYA

GF061225 (Clandestine) Voice of Sudanese Popular Revolution in Arabic 1035 GMT
6 Apr 85

[Excerpts] From the radio of the Voice of the Sudanese Popular Revolution, we greet the Brother Lieutenant General 'abd al-Rahman Siwar-al-Dhahab and we greet every one of our valient soldiers, NCO's, and officers of our heroic Army, which in this blessed day of 6 April 1985 has brought back 21 October 1964 in a magnificent popular mass revolution in which every member of the Sudanese people has joined. The Sudanese people have, with valor, determination, and a spirit of struggle, staged a political general strike and declared civil disobedience. [passage omitted]

O our proud people, march forward with your revolution. No power on earth can stand in your way. At these moments we remind you that the revolution throughout the world is with you; all the honest progressive forces of mankind support you; the revolutionaries of the Arab nation support you; the revolutionaries of our African continent support you; the revolutionaries of the Third World support you; the socialist countries led by the great Soviet Union support you.

O our great people, our magnificent, brave, daring, and revolutionary Sudanese masses! Yesterday, the brother revolutionary leader and the teacher thinker Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September revolution and the trustee of Arab nationalism, spoke to you with the historic responsibility of revolutionaries and appealed to you, the Sudanese people and army, to carry out his advice, instructions, and guidance verbatim, and to move suddenly from the stand of passive strikes and passive and revolutionary civil disobedience--which you waged for more than 10 continuous days--and to organize your ranks in the villages and the towns in people's congresses and in people's committees to run your daily lives. These people's congresses and people's committees are the people's way to the government of the people. We appeal to the army and police to organize their commands and their barracks [words indistinct] in armed people's committees. O command of our people's armed forces! O our heroic Sudanese army! We want you now and at once to move the revolution from its passive stage in which it demolished the Mineon regime and ended the Sudanese state and destroyed and ended the Sudanese government. In those immortal days that were crowned by your victory today, you, our ingenious people, the people of revolutions extending from the Mahdi's revolution to

this moment, have carried out your political role and have been the alternative to the government and state. Now and at once the people must organize and the people's congresses and committees must run the people's affairs and be responsible for food, clothing, transport, and electricity.

We want immediately a people's committee to manage the revolutionary Sudanese information media for Omdurman radio. March to the Sudanese News Agency so that you can foil the imperialist, capitalist U.S., British, French, and German media which since your revolution began on 26 March 1985 have been distorting your revolution and depicted it as a protest against price increases and claimed that the Sudanese Army supports the U.S. watchdog Numayri. Now the world knows who are the Sudanese people and who are the heroic Sudanese army. March toward the Sudanese media. We want to hear from you now, the dawn has come, neither the prison nor the prisoner will remain [a song that became famous in October 1964]. We want to hear from you the songs of October. We in the Voice of the Sudanese Popular Revolution are with you every moment throughout the day.

O valiant Sudanese! Organize and be ready and stand behind your valiant army so that you can foil any outside power--and specifically the imperialist United States and the surrogate Egyptian regime--and deprive it of the opportunity to intervene.

We urge you, O revolutionary brother, Lt Gen 'abd al-Rahman Siwar-al-Dhahab, to form a delegation of the people and the people's armed forces that will come immediately to Libya and the Brother Colonel Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi has invited you to do so--a popular and military delegation--to hold talks and draw up plans. Today is a victory for the Arab nation. Today is a victory for the great leader Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, who declared to the world many years ago that he supports the Sudanese people. [partly indistinct passage omitted]

This is the day of the Arab nation. Hasten and join the great 1 September revolution and with the brother leader Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, leader of the national [qawmiyah] and revolutionary forces. O masses of our Sudanese people! Begin to organize your ranks and support your army and be its right arm. O our Sudanese masses, shortly we will rebroadcast to you the speech addressed to you by brother Col Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, the trustee of Arab nationalism. Listen to his important guidance. Forward, the revolutionary struggle continues. Today, dawn has come, neither the prison nor the prisoner will remain. God is great, God is great, victory for the great Sudanese revolution!

CSO: 4500/88

SUDAN

SPLA RADIO BEGINS COMMENTARY ON MEDIA COVERAGE OF SUDAN

EA121653 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] What follows is: Sudan Affairs in World Media, a series of talks by (Atim Yak Atim) and presented by (Nyal Deng Nyal). In the second talk about the media coverage of the Sudanese affairs by international news media, we today review how journals all published in London reported the problems which face Numayri and which finally led to the overthrow of his regime by mass demonstrations and strikes in Khartoum and other cities of the Sudan.

Numayri has been undoubtedly the most controversial head of state and government. When he came to power in May 1969, he was a staunch friend of the Soviet Union. He was once reported to have said that he had come to put an end to the [word indistinct] constitution which was under discussion then by the Constituent Assembly which he dissolved on seizing power. Numayri and his government officially celebrated the centenary birthday of the great socialist thinker, Lenin. Numayri's public speeches always carried the phrase The Great Soviet Union. Thirteen years later, Marshal Numayyi brought Muslim brothers, the avowed enemies of scientific socialism to be his advisers. The result of this alliance was the imposition of Islamic law. Under Islamic laws brutal crimes against persons who were accused of petty crimes were perpetrated.

In 1972 Numayri was without allies. To fill the political vacuum he started deals with those elites from the southern Sudan who in turn manipulated the population of that part of the country. They believed that Numayri was the only right leader which the country had had since independence.

With the southern support, Numayri was able to ward off opposition from the north. In 1980, Numayri's design for the south became clear. That he was not the father of the nation that the public had been made to believe by the southern politicians was clear. He began to exploit the power struggle in the south for his own ends. He told the south to join in varying degrees in national opposition to Numayri's system. [sentence as heard]

The unpredictability of Numayri naturally lacked [word indistinct] sense of direction--politically and economically--a development which threatened and finally was responsible for his overthrow on 6 April 1985.

This is how the journals saw Numayri battle against opposition from his own countrymen. When Islamic laws were introduced in the Sudan in September 1983, amputation of limbs of persons guilty of minor offenses such as theft of 50 U.S. dollars and public flogging were features of this system. This was seen by several news media as a violation of human rights. Amnesty International report for 1984 agreed with the media that the regime of Sudan was against human rights by the application of Islamic law on offenders. The Islamic laws became more unpopular when Muhammad Taha, the 76-year-old leader of the Republican Brothers was hanged for what the regime called heresy.

A correspondent for AFRICA monthly magazine, March issue, 1985 had this to say about the execution of the leader of the Republican Brothers: Numayri refused to pardon Mahmud Muhammad Taha and on 18 January he was publicly hanged at the notorious Kobar prison in Khartoum. A day before the hanging, Numayri went on radio and TV and told his anxious countrymen that he could not find a single reason why Mahmud Muhammad Taha should not die. His country would incur the wrath of Allah if Mahmud was not executed, wrote the correspondent for AFRICA monthly magazine. Even after his death all was not well with Taha. All his property was confiscated and his body was flown away in a helicopter. He was denied burial in a Muslim cemetery, the correspondent reported.

Dear listeners, due to lack of time, we shall bring you the rest of this series tomorrow. Thank you for listening.

CSO: 4500/88

SUDAN

BRIEFS

EMBEZZLEMENT IN GOVERNMENT ORGANS--Khartoum, 16 Apr (SUNA)--Embezzlements in central and local government organs and in institutions and organizations attached to the commissioner's office in the national capital reached 1,567,304 pounds in fiscal year 1982/1983. This was announced by an official source in the General Auditing Bureau who also said that embezzlements in banks in the national capital reached 654,751 pounds in the same period. The source added that a comparison of embezzlements that took place in fiscal year 1979/1980 with those that took place in fiscal year 1978/1979 in local government organs shows an increase of 97.4 percent. The source attributed the increase in embezzlements to a lack of internal financial control in most organizations and departments, failure to observe the rules or regulations governing accounting, weakness of administrative control, and failure to abide by auditing recommendations and guidelines and to quickly and firmly deal with embezzlement cases through the legal organs. [Text] [JN161901 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 16 Apr 85]

CHAIRMAN MEETS WITH GOVERNOR OF ARAB BANK--Khartoum, 16 Apr (SUNA)--General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar-al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, has been briefed on the activities of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa and the bank's message aimed at bolstering solidarity, friendship, and brotherhood between the Arab and African peoples. This took place during his reception of Dr Chedli Ayari, the governor of the bank. In a statement following the meeting, Dr Ayari said that the chairman of the Transitional Military Council praised the bank's efforts to promote Arab-African cooperation and promised to extend every facility that may enable the bank to carry out its duties. Dr Ayari also said that the bank will exert every effort to confront the problems of desertification, drought, and refugees, pointing out that there are some proposals being considered in this regard. [Text] [JN161748 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 16 Apr 85]

PROBE ON AIRLIFT OF JEWS--Sudanese newspaper AL-AYYAM has called on the Sudanese transitional military council to form a fact-finding committee which will open the file on the airlift to Israel of the Ethiopian Falasha Jews through Sudan and will investigate the role of ousted President Ja'far Numayri in this incident. A report by AL-AYYAM yesterday said that Arab and foreign news media recently revealed the involvement of Numayri's dissolved regime in the airlift to Israel of Falasha Jews through secret air routes from al-Qadarif region, Khartoum international airport, and the eastern Sudanese borders. The

report added that in spite of the official statement and allegations issued by the former foreign minister during the meeting of the African ministerial council in Tunis, the case still represents a heavy burden for the Sudanese people. All attempts by the Numayri dictatorship to accuse some parties, to arouse alleged justifications, and to escalate the issue have failed. In conclusion, the newspaper affirmed the need for the transitional military council to take measures and rapid steps to end this issue, which is on the mind of every Sudanese person. The Sudanese Communist Party issued a statement yesterday calling for liquidating the presence of Israeli intelligence in Sudan, and for closing all means which it uses in the airlift of the Falasha Jews. The statement referred to safe houses of the enemy intelligence; an example is a modern photography studio in Khartoum, recently opened, which has a dubious role in arranging the airlift of Ethiopian Jews. [Text] [GF131430 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 13 Apr 85 pp 1, 13]

'CLOSURE' OF SUDANESE CORPORATION--Khartoum, April 13 (AFP)--Sudan's new military leader General 'Abd-al-Rahman Siwar-al-Dhahab has ordered the closure of an army-controlled holding company active in agriculture, transportation, export-import insurance and other business activities. The holding company, one of Sudan's largest financial organizations, employed between 15,000-20,000 people. A communique from the ruling Military Council which took power a week ago said all officers and soldiers working in enterprise had been sent back to their units, while the civilian employees had been temporarily laid-off pending a final decision on the company's future. The communique said a commission had been created to investigate the activities of the holding company. [Text] [NC132036 Paris AFP in English 1936 GMT 13 Apr 85]

CLANDESTINE WANTS HEADS OF NUMAYRI, MUBARAK--O our free masses! What is this which the bat of Egypt is claiming? What is he thinking of? Does not the vile man still remember or should we remind him? It appears that those of his ilk forget quickly. They are pawns manipulated by imperialists and slaves who carry out the orders they are given. Does he still remember? We do not forget and will not forget who supplied the Mineon security men with electric batons and teargas bombs and who trained personnel in terrorism and torture and unleashed them in the streets of Sudan to suppress the Sudanese masses. We will not forget, O bat, and we will not be deceived by the tricks of a cunning fox. O capitulator, we demand that you hand over Numayri's head and we urge the Egyptian people to hand over your head to our Arab nation. Khartoum today is the Khartoum of 'abd al-Nasir's [three] no's. You are the fourth no which our people adds to the three no's: no to peace [with Israel], no to recognition, no to negotiations, no to Mubarak. [Text] [GF120944 (Clandestine) Voice of Sudanese Popular Revolution in Arabic 0840 GMT 12 Apr 85]

DONATION FOR ECONOMY RECEIVED--Khartoum, 14 Apr (SUNA)--General 'Abd-al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar-al-Dhahab, chairman of the Military Council and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, has received \$50,000 from employees of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa for bolstering the Save the National Economy Fund. This came during his reception of the head of the employees' trade union at the bank at the General Command this morning. He also received a check for 10,000 pounds from the national cooperative union for bolstering the Save the National Economy Fund. Gen Siwar-al-Dhahab also

received a cable of congratulations from the trade union of Al-Qash farmers praising the People's Armed Forces' bias toward the people and their legitimate aspirations. The cable also stressed the Al-Qash farmers' support for the revolution to confront all the difficulties of drought and desertification that are facing the region. [Text] [JN141521 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 14 Apr 85]

SIWAR AL-DHAHAB RECEIVES DONATION--Khartoum, 13 Apr (SUNA)--General 'Abd-al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar-al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council and commander in chief of the People's Armed Forces, received a check for 250,000 pounds from the Credit and Foreign Trade Bank for bolstering the Save the National Economy Fund. He received the check during a meeting with the bank's manager and representatives today. The delegation conveyed to Siwar al-Dhahab their congratulations and appreciation for the People's Armed Forces' bias toward the people. [Text] [JN131451 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1424 GMT 13 Apr 85]

SECURITY AGENTS SHOT CITIZENS--Reports by SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] say that state security agents shot dead at least four citizens who were participating in a huge and orderly anti-government demonstration. Our correspondent adds that these shootings occurred after it was clear that Numayri and system had been overthrown. In another development, crowds estimated at around 1,000,000 demonstrators marched towards ?Kobar Prison, which they broke open, releasing all the political detainees. The demonstrators were shouting: Prison is not for honorable citizens. Prison is for traitors, in a clear reference that they meant members of Numayri's government were suitable for (?Kobar) Prison. [Text] [EA081405 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 8 Apr 85]

SUDANESE PARTIES TO PRESENT DEMANDS--London, 8 Apr (SUNA)--The representatives of the Sudanese parties organizations in Britain have decided to march from Hyde Park to the Sudanese Embassy in London to present a memorandum to the new regime in Sudan. The memorandum includes the demands of the Sudanese parties represented by the Democratic Unionist Party, the Ummah Party, Sudanese people's liberation movements of southern Sudan, the Sudanese Communist Party, and the progressive organization. These demands are: 1. Liquidating dictatorial establishments and autocracy. 2. Transferring authority to the masses and restoring parliamentary democracy. 3. Restoring democratic freedoms and abrogating laws that restrict freedom. 4. Safeguarding and guaranteeing the country's independence and national sovereignty. Liquidating foreign bases and hegemony, and maintaining neighborly relations with the neighboring countries. 5. Safeguarding national unity and ending the civil war in southern Sudan through fraternal dialogue and democratic processes. 6. Guaranteeing sovereignty and independence of the judiciary. 7. Working toward stopping economic deterioration and removing hardships facing the people. The signatories to the memorandum said that the brave popular uprising by the Sudanese people is considered a magnificent heroic consensus. [Text] [JN081305 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 0938 GMT 8 Apr 85]

SOUTHERNERS ISSUE STATEMENT--The southern Sudanese in Khartoum issued last Saturday a statement to the Sudanese people expressing their concepts on the

basic national human rights foreign policy economic plans, as well as cultural identity. The statement called for the immediate declaration of cease-fire in the south and that the transitional government should make direct contact with the SPLM and SPLA with the view of bringing about a lasting peaceful settlement. It called for applying autonomy to other less-developed areas of the Sudan, such as the east, the west and southern Blue Nile, in recognition of their distinct cultures. On economic strategies, the statement stressed revision of all agreements with companies that plundered the economy of the nation, and reviewing cooperation agreements with companies and institutions which destroyed the national economy, such as the World Bank and IMF. On cultural rights, the statement demanded that the state should be separated from the mosque, the church, and the synagogue. Regarding the foreign policy, the statement asked for the cancellation of the integration charter and mutual defense pact, and for dismantling all the foreign military bases in the Sudan. With regard to the domestic field, the statement demanded the abolition of all the Shari'a laws and circulars as imposed from September 1983. [Text] [JN141111 Khartoum SUNA in English 1025 GMT 14 Apr 85]

MILITARY COUNCIL'S AIMS--In an interview with BBC this morning, Mr John Luc, SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army, Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] spokesman in Western Europe, said that the movement's rejection of negotiations on cooperation with the Military Council in Khartoum is in the interest of the group of professionals' associations, trade unions, students organisations, on the one hand, and the SPLA-SPLM on the other, who, together, are the genuine representatives of the people. Mr Luc added that the military council, with the reactionary political parties, were trying to isolate the SPLA and the group of professionals, trade unions, and the student bodies, and he said would not stop but rather escalate the war [sentence as heard]. With the war going on, Mr Luc stated, there could be no peace and stability in the country. [Text] [EA131717 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 13 Apr 85]

DECREE PENSIONING OFF RAILWAY OFFICIALS--'Atbarah, 13 Apr (SUNA)--Adam 'Abd al-Mu'min, chairman of the board of directors of the Railway Corporation, issued a decree here today pensioning off Mustafa Ahmad Nuri, director of the Central Region; Ma'mun Hasan Khalid, assistant director of the Central Region for engineering affairs; and 'Abbas al-'Awad. [Text] [JN131434 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1417 GMT 13 Apr 85]

MUBARAK INFORMED OF SUDAN MILITARY COUP--Sarajevo, April 13 (TANJUG)--The new head of the Sudanese military regime, General Siwar al-Dhahab, had told Egypt in advance of his intention to take over power, OSLOBODJENJE of Sarajevo writes today. A few hours before the news about the military coup was reported over Radio Omdurman--claims the Yugoslav daily citing AL-AHRAM of Cairo--"The Egyptian ambassador in Khartoum alone was told by the Sudanese Army commander of his decision to take over power in a bloodless coup." This probably was the reason why Egyptian President Mubarak advised the deposed Sudanese Head of State, Ja'far Numayri not to expose himself to the risk of returning to Khartoum, adds the Cairo correspondent of OSLOBODJENJE. The news of the army coup reached Numayri in Cairo, where he arrived after a two-week stay in the United States. [Text] [LD131102 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0917 GMT 13 Apr 85]

DEAN OF JOURNALISTS ELECTED--Khartoum, 16 Apr (SUNA)--The Sudanese Journalists Union Council held a meeting this afternoon. During this meeting, the council unanimously elected 'Umar 'Abd-al-Tamm as dean of Sudanese journalists. The members of the union's Executive Bureau will be elected after completing the union's membership roll. The conferees approved a strategy for journalists in the current phase. The strategy will be referred to the National Salvation Alliance and the Transitional Military Council. The Journalists Union Council addressed an appeal to all dismissed and deported journalists who were forced to leave their journalistic work to register their names with the dean of journalists and to submit memos explaining the circumstances of their dismissal and deportation. The council decided to hold a seminar next week on the role of the press in the current phase. In the meantime, the Journalists Union Council has begun compiling the union's membership roll prior to convening the journalists general assembly as soon as possible. [Text] [JN161827 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 16 Apr 85]

DONATIONS FOR ECONOMY RECEIVED--Khartoum, 14 Apr (SUNA)--General 'Abd-al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar-al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council and People's Armed Forces commander in chief, received a check for \$20,000 and another for 50,000 Sudanese pounds from the Sudanese World Bank and a check for 100,000 Sudanese pounds from the Islamic Solidarity Bank to bolster the Save the National Economy Fund. [Text] [JN141633 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 14 Apr 85]

MILLIONAIRE DETAINED; 'DONATION' REFUSED--Khartoum, 14 Apr (MENA)--The MENA correspondent has learned that Khudari al-Sharif has been arrested. Al-Sharif is a Sudanese millionaire who made loans to the government. However, Sudan's military leaders have refused Al-Sharif's offer of a \$2 million donation. Al-Sharif had been an ordinary employee of the Sudanese Foreign Ministry. He later went to the Gulf, where he became a millionaire in a few years. He also established the Khudari al-Sharif Foundation. [Text] [NC140933 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0840 GMT 14 Apr 85]

CSO: 4500/88

AFGHANISTAN

KABUL TERMINATES CULTURAL COOPERATION WITH FRANCE

Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Mar 85 p 6

[Text] It was learned from authorized sources in Paris, Thursday, February 28, that the Afghan government recently indicated to France and the Federal Republic of Germany its desire to terminate cultural and technical cooperation with those 2 countries. France and the FRG were the only 2 Western countries maintaining this kind of cooperation with Afghanistan.

Franco-Afghan cooperation, a long-standing tradition, had endured in a climate of uncertainty; since the communist takeover in April, 1978 and the arrival of Soviet troops in December, 1979, however, it has dropped off sharply. In 1982, Kabul authorities indicated to Paris that, since security conditions no longer allowed digs in the north of the country, the maintenance of a French archeological department satellite in Afghanistan's capital was no longer justified. The team of geographers restoring the Afghan vegetation cover halted its activities in 1980. Medical collaboration between the 2 countries, as well as the French teaching post at the University of Kabul, were also discontinued.

Since then, the most representative element of cultural cooperation has been the Franco-Afghan lycee Istiqlal, whose new, very modern campus was dedicated in 1968 by Georges Pompidou. Approximately a dozen cooperants taught there. Paris also provided a few scholarships to Afghan students. This prestigious establishment turned out two generations of Afghans, some of whom are currently serving in the administration and diplomatic corps of their country and a large number of whom can also be found in the resistance or abroad. A French cultural center still exists in Kabul.

Federal Germany's contribution consisted primarily of a lycee comparable to Istiqlal and also very highly regarded until recently by the Afghan bourgeoisie.

The decision to terminate cultural cooperation with France and the FRG underscores the desire of Afghan authorities to extend the educational reform inspired by the "Soviet model" to 2 establishments spared until now.

India is one of the last non-communist countries to maintain an important cooperative mission in Afghanistan. A few specialized United Nations agencies are also active there (the UNPD which finances UNESCO, AFO and UNICEF projects).

9825

CSO: 4619/38

AFGHANISTAN

MINISTER EXPLAINS PLANS TO ELIMINATE ELECTRICITY SHORTAGE

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 28 Feb 85 pp 1-2

[Text] In order to reply to the criticism of one of our dear readers (residing in the first district of Khayrkhaneh) concerning the disorganization of the electrical situation in some parts of the city of Kabul, a correspondent from HEYWAD's editorial department conversed with the honorable Raz Mohammad Paktin, the minister of electrical energy. A report follows:

After studying the letter, the minister of electrical energy answered as follows:

There is a 110-kilovolt power line between the electrical power plants (Naghalu-Kabul and Sarubi-Mahipur-Kabul) and the substations distributing the electricity. The towers on this line were previously sabotaged by counterrevolutionary elements and as a result of this hostile action, the city of Kabul was faced with difficulties from the electrical energy standpoint. Due to the heroic acts of the Ministry of Electrical Energy's workers and other governmental organizations, these towers were repaired at the first opportunity and the line was activated, although nine towers on the aforementioned power line were put into temporary use and will be permanently repaired in the future. Thus, at present there is no major problem from the standpoint of the power lines and towers on the Naghalu-Kabul and Sarubi-Kabul connection.

The minister of electrical energy added: I consider it worthy to note that the revolutionary workers at the Ministry of Electrical Energy extended the 110-kilovolt power line between the east substation and Barnabasnakut by 10 January 1985 in order to welcome the twentieth anniversary of the POPA's founding. With the activation of this 110-kilovolt power line connecting the east substation and Barnabasnakut, the problems of equitable distribution and low voltage have been eliminated. That is to say that previously there was no 110-kilovolt connecting power line between the east and Barnabasnakut and that at the moment the lines were cut or there were technical problems on the Sarubi-Barnabasnakut power line, the station in Barnabasnakut was completely without electricity. At this time the area that was electrified by Barnabasnakut was supplied with electricity by 15-kilovolt power lines in accordance with the conductive capacity of the cables. Naturally there were complaints about the low voltage, and in addition, the electricity needed by this area could not be transmitted by 15-kilovolt power lines.

By activating the 110-kilovolt East-Barnabasnakut line this problem has been eliminated. By activating even one 110-kilovolt transfer power line between Naghalu and Kabul or by activating one thermal generating unit, all three substations can be supplied with electricity.

In order to inform the residents of Kabul concerning the distribution of electricity, the minister of electrical energy said: I would like to take this opportunity to inform the esteemed residents of Kabul that the need for electrical energy in the city of Kabul (houses currently using electricity) is estimated to be 180 megawatts. However, the power distribution network has the capacity to carry 140 to 145 megawatts. Naturally, at the time of peak load it is necessary to shut off part of the power distribution system. In addition, it was also obvious to our esteemed citizens that since the beginning of the current year a water shortage has been noticeable. Due to the shortage of water in the Naghalu dam reservoir and the inadequate amount of water in the Kabul lake, whose waters are directly used by our Mahipur electrical station to produce electrical power, greater problems of electrical power production have developed and the generating equipment cannot produce the maximum electrical power due to the water shortage.

The Ministry of Electrical Energy has been compelled to utilize gas turbines in order to partially eliminate the problems of our esteemed citizens and eliminate the outages. However, due to the shortage of diesel fuel, we cannot continuously operate the gas turbines. Another problem we are facing is that some of the transformers within Kabul's electrical network were consuming too much power and thus, in order to prevent these transformers from burning up, we were compelled to implement a policy of cutting off power by turns.

Concerning the plans of the ministry to eliminate the above problems, the minister of electrical energy said: In order to solve the complex problem of the electrical power shortage, the Ministry of Electrical Energy has fruitful plans in hand, some of which have been implemented. For example, during the current year a new thermal electrical unit with a capacity of 45 megawatts has been put into operation and is now in use. The work on the project to build a 220-kilovolt line from the Soviet border to Kabul is now continuing. This project is under construction with the help of the friendly country of the Soviet Union and will carry up to 300 megawatts to the city of Kabul and the 'Ainak copper project.

It is worthy of note that construction for the first phase of this project, which was the extension of the line to Mazar-e Sharif, was recently completed and has started up operation.

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6 May 1985

AFGHANISTAN

LABOR COMMITTEE PLACE OVER 9000 IN JOBS

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 28 Feb 85 p 2

[Interview with Asadollah Kevesh, head of the government's Employment and Social Security Committee. Date and place of interview not given]

[Text] [Question] Please tell us what things the government's Employment and Social Security Committee have done in anticipation of the 20th founding anniversary of the PDPA?

[Answer] In anticipation of the anniversary, this committee has carried out a series of planning and research activities and has submitted them through department channels to the Council of Ministers. In brief, these consist of: a proposal containing two separate recommendations regarding changes in the time schedules of government workers nationwide in order to improve the transportation situation in Kabul at peak hours, and a study containing proposed samples of a worker accidental injury record, work and trainee contracts and job vacancy postings. These will go into effect once the DRA labor law is implemented. Also, in anticipation of the 20th founding anniversary of the PDPA this committee, in addition to organizing a series of voluntary work, has had good results from intensifying activities in putting into effect decrees and decisions of the party and the government.

[Question] How many eligible people have been introduced by the Employment and Social Services Committee to various organizations in the first 10 months of the year 1363 [ending 20 March 1985]?

[Answer] From 21 March 1984 until 19 February 1985 this Committee has placed 9,567 eligible citizens in jobs through its Manpower and Placement Division in various government institutions, different companies and private firms. Of these 3,197 were graduates from educational institutions and 6,371 were other citizens, white and blue collar workers.

[Question] Please tell us what steps have been taken to provide work for our dear fellow-citizens residing in the provinces?

[Answer] Employment committees composed of directors of provincial government offices and agencies, headed by the provincial governor, were set up in finding work for our dear fellow-citizens residing in the provinces and in order to boost the employment level of cadres needed by government sectors and various companies in the provinces. The provincial employment committees, whose duty and authority have been determined by the Council of Ministers, at the start of each year are required to compile a list of organizational vacancies in government offices and institutions and in the mixed private-public sectors of their province and refer graduates of regular schools and other eligibles such as white and blue collar workers for job placement.

Of course these committees operate on guidelines provided by the government's Employment and Social Security Committee.

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AFGHANISTAN

MINISTER DETAILS GROWTH OF LIGHT INDUSTRIES

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 24 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] One year ago the Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs was created within the framework of the DRA Council of Ministers as a separate ministry to meet our society's urgent need to supply and prepare primary foodstuffs for consumption and to organize and make the greatest possible use of the production of light industries. In order to become acquainted with and report on the work and the activities of this ministry, HEYWAD's correspondent had an interview with Eng Mohammad 'Aziz, the minister of light industries and foodstuffs. The interview is herewith presented: In answer to the question by HEYWAD's correspondent, Eng Mohammad 'Aziz, the minister of light industries and foodstuffs, began his speech as follows.

The Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs was given the task of producing goods valued at 5,629,280 afghani during the last 9 months of 1984 on the basis of current valuation. However, in fact 5,052,000 afghani worth of production were realized, of which 2,012,000 afghani were in the field of light industries, and 3,040,000 afghani in the foodstuffs industries. On this basis, during the current year the Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs has realized 90 percent of its plan, which in comparison with the previous year shows a 312 percent increase. Furthermore, the plan allowed for 8,074 tons of combed cotton during nine months of the current year, but in fact 6,337 tons were produced, which realized 73 percent of the plan. In comparison with the same period of last year, this shows a 128 percent increase.

Our textile plan called for producing 41,350,000 meters of cloth during the nine month period while in fact 31,914,000 meters were produced, so that the result achieved 77 percent of the plan. In comparison with the same period of last year, this shows a 126 percent increase. The reason for falling short of the projected plan for the country's textiles should include lack of electrical energy, inadequate labor force and abnormal wear and tear of our machinery.

The minister of light industries and foodstuffs added: In the foodstuffs industries sector the plan called for 115,000 tons of flour during the nine months of 1984. However, in fact 112,879 tons were produced which realized 98 percent of the plan. In comparison with the production of the

same period last year, a growth of 110 percent is shown. In the bakery products sector the nine month plan called for 21,900 tons while the real production was 23,652.1 tons, which demonstrates a 108 percent realization of the plan. This also shows a 117 percent increase over the same period of last year. The Kandahar food processing plant produced 208 tons of fruit and canned fruit and thus succeeded in achieving 96.5 percent of its plan. This is an 8-fold increase over last year.

In answer to another question, Eng Mohammad 'Aziz answered:

In order to realize the projected plan and eliminate factors leading to shortcomings in general, and particularly in the area of cotton gin, presses and textile production, this ministry has taken some steps which include: The construction of dormitories alongside textile factories, the installation of diesel generators with a total capacity of 2.6 megawatts, the creation of children's nurseries through the formation of special work teams, the propagation of an accord system in the payment of wages in a number of institutions, the creation of self-defense and civil defense groups, attracting women workers, establishing 38 cotton purchasing stations, the distribution of 5,500 tons of seed, which is 600 tons more than the projected plan, the distribution of oil, oil seed cake soap and linter-cotton at lower prices to the cotton farmers on the basis of designated norms, and the creation of facilities for farmers at the time of delivery and payment. We also consider it noteworthy that from the beginning of the campaign up to 10 January, a total of 41,662 tons of cotton seed has been purchased, which is 18,117 tons more than the same period last year.

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AFGHANISTAN

L'HUMANITE: SOVIETS DO NOT RUN OPERATIONS

Paris LE MONDE in French 3-4 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] In an effort to be objective in informing its readers on Afghanistan, L'HUMANITE dispatches special correspondents "on both sides".

Claude Kroes, assigned to the resistance side, did not infiltrate the resistance and went no further than Peshawar in Pakistan. The place reminded him of "Tangiers in the forties". Except for "a few, fairly affluent hippies", he seems to have mainly encountered an assortment of more or less suspicious-looking characters, none of whom were members of the resistance per se. Nevertheless, he heard a great deal about "slightly more than 30 movements, the fine points of which are often subtle and whose hatreds sometimes run deep, (who) are tearing each other apart in the name of resistance to the invader" (no quotes!). "It is difficult to see what they have in common, except anticommunism."

In contrast, Serge Leyrac went to the heart of the action on the Kabul side. The description he brings back borders on the idyllic. Strolling in the bazaars and alleys without anxiety--despite ominous information published, particularly by LE MONDE--he was the target of nothing more than "the friendly or shrewd pitches of the merchants". His appraisal of the first stage of the Afghan revolution, led by Amine and characterized by "brutal, even suicidal politics" is extremely harsh. Fortunately, with the takeover of Mr Babrak Karmal--and "the appeal to Soviet armed forces in accordance with clauses of the USSR-Afghanistan friendship pact"--the situation was restored to normal.

Then, "What is being resisted in Afghanistan?" L'HUMANITE's special correspondent asks. "Literacy? Widespread education? The liberation of women? (. . .) In the name of what? What values?"

True, "an undeclared war (. . .) undoubtedly exists" in this "maligned country", but "the balance of strength has now shifted in favor of the revolutionary power". Of course, there are attacks. But these cannot be prevented "in a country as well-policed as France" either. In any case, order is maintained solely by Afghan security forces. Quoting the Kabul government's vice-minister of defense, Serge Leyrac states that "the Soviet contingent does not participate in operations". Never?

AFGHANISTAN

PEOPLE SAID TO REACT FAVORABLY TO LAND, WATER REFORMS

Kabul ANIS in Dari 25 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] The land belongs to the people, to those who sweat working it and turning it into the wellspring of material riches for society.

In the dawn of history when the low growth rate of productive forces was not conducive to the exploitation of man by man, human beings looked upon their land and every inch of the soil as the common domain of all members of the tribe and clan.

The expansion of productive forces and an increase in the level of work output at a certain stage of its development brought about private land ownership. Tribal leaders and warlords, using their station on the tribal level, gradually allocated the best lands to themselves and by monopolizing such territories they subsequently forced other members of the tribe to accept cruel exploitation.

The dominance of feudal affairs lasted some 1,500 years in Afghanistan, years and centuries which saw the poverty, pain, misery and privation of peasants by the exploitation of oppressive feudal land owners.

The peasant uprisings of our country, like similar uprisings in other countries, did not end in final victory for the participants despite great acts of bravery and indestructible acts of heroism, because they were not equipped with the proper ideological weapon that would have shown them the true path for deliverance and moreover, they were unable to organize their struggle for freedom. Thus, their sacrifices were in vain and the lives they gave produced no results. And so, hundreds of years passed until the epoch-making working class emerged and created an ideology in which was crystalized the experiences of the struggles of millions of human beings through thousands of years across the world. It was this ideology that became the decisive weapon of the toilers of Afghanistan for national and social freedom under the leadership of the PDPA.

From the very start of its activities, the PDPA turned its attention to the just wishes of peasants for access to land and water and set the road to this expectation, with their extensive participation by implementing land and water reforms for the benefit of all the peasants. It was therefore no

accident that soon the best representatives of indigent and toiling peasants turned to the party and after passing through the school of struggle in its ranks, devoted themselves by making party policy known among peasants and encouraging them to show active support via the party.

The stand of the PDPA in the sincere defense of the vital interests of peasants was proven by the start of democratic land and water reforms following the victory of the revolution. The policy of the party in this regard was confirmed in all the basic documents of the revolution--including laws and decrees of the revolutionary years and the new and evolutionary stage. Thus, what just a few years earlier had been the historic aspiration of millions of peasants became a reality.

As a result of the revolution, the peasants found access to something for which they had sacrificed their lives but which had eluded their grasp and remained in their hearts as only a sweet dream and sacred aspiration. For the first time in the thousands of years of the country's history finally they got access to something without which their lives had been spent in the darkest poverty and misery. They had not benefited from the fruit of their labor and the output of their sacrifice and sweat made only the pillagers of their lives and possessions the richer.

Through its decrees concerning land, its adjuncts and its reforms and supplements, the revolution erased the humiliating, despicable and condemnatory brand from the brows of the peasants and turned them into masters of their toil and sweat. As a result, the peasants now devote themselves to work a hundred times more enthusiastically than before, work which is free of exploitation and its output belongs to them. This not only results in the continuous improvements of their own standards of welfare and well-being, but also results in the rapid economic and social growth of society as a whole.

Moreover, the peasants view the revolution, this historic and life-giving achievement, as the symbol of their honor, freedom, dignity and prosperity, and by their life-sacrificing defense of it, they are repaying their noble debt to the country and revolution.

The implementation of land and water reforms is not only the realization of justice for peasants but also the realization of advancement and progress for society as a whole. By putting into effect this key responsibility of the revolution, which insures the attachment of peasants to rapid productive growth and increased output, it brings about fast expansion of productive forces, increased work results, abundance of material benefits and the ability to guarantee the ever-increasing needs of the people to food products and industries to raw materials, thereby the dark brand of medieval backwardness has been wiped from the face of our society for ever. This constitutes the historic aspiration of all patriots and true sons of the country. This is the secret of the daily-increasing support of the people for democratic land and water reforms.

AFGHANISTAN

EDUCATION CENTERS FOR CHILDREN EXPANDED

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 28 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] The PDPA and the DRA government devote special attention to the education and upbringing of children who will be the future builders of our revolutionary country. The government see s to expand and increase educational facilities for the children of the country so that they become good citizens and at the same time their parents can undertake social and productive work outside their homes.

The kindergarten of the Bus Institute, which opened in the spring of the current year, works along these lines. At present 40 children of men and women workers are being taken care of in the kindergarten and the nursery school. Children under three years of age are accepted in the nursery section while those between 3-6 years of age are admitted to the kindergarten.

Four teachers train the children according to the beneficial programs prepared for them. The children get a proper training in a happy and playful atmosphere.

As a result of economizing and doing voluntary work, workers of the Bus Institute have been able to repair five additional rooms adjoining the kindergarten and place them at the disposal of the facility.

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AFGHANISTAN

VOLUNTEER TRAINING OF WORKERS CONTINUES IN TEXTILE PLANT

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 1 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] The Pol-e Charkhi Woolen Textile Plant has gone into operation in Kabul as the only plant manufacturing high quality woolen goods and blankets, providing most of the needs of the army and police units, government organs and the working people of the city and other provinces.

A spokesman at the plant said: The plant was scheduled to produce 145,000 yards of material whereas it produced 143,300 meters in a 9-month period, a 99 percent of target. Blanket material production for the same period was scheduled at 48,970 while only 38,420 meters were produced, showing 87 percent of targeted output.

The inability of this plant to produce targeted output for 10 months within a 9-month period was because of a shortage of woolen yarn. Efforts to get supplies from Kandahar were unsuccessful, but as a result of initiatives taken, 3.1 tons were received by air from Kabul.

The sources said: As a result of a work contest in three of its main production units and a stand-by unit, the management of the Pol-e Charkhi woolen textiles plant was able to organize three volunteer work shifts to boost the work of task groups. It has organized volunteer work on Tuesday nights and Fridays during the last 11 days of November 1984 in order to achieve government plan targets and trained 40 individuals in textile production work--these trainees are able to work independently in various sectors. Moreover, the plant has set up literacy courses in which a large number of workers are now being taught by professors, party comrades and those connected with the plant. In the past 12 months, 50 persons graduated from these courses.

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AFGHANISTAN

AGRICULTURE MINISTRY TO PURCHASE FARMERS' COTTON

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 25 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] As a valuable industrial, economic and commercial product, cotton has come to be known in the world as white gold. The history of cotton cultivation in Afghanistan goes back 3,000 years and is still grown in the traditional fashion.

The above comments were made by Asadi, director general of the Ministry of Light Industry and Foodstuffs, in regard to the value of cotton and he added: Cotton is grown in the provinces of Samangan, Faryab, Jowzjan, Balkh, Baghlan, Takhar, Qonduz, Farah, Qandahar, Helmand, Herat and Badghis and is processed by gin and press factories of Spinzar plant, the baling center and Herat Cotton Company. From the start of the buying campaign this year [ended 20 March 1985] until now 43,945 tons of 3 kinds of raw cotton: 15,300 tons by Spinzar, 17,698 tons by the baling center, 10,383 tons by the Gin and Press Company of Balkh Province and 855 tons by the Herat Cotton Company have been purchased from farmers at a value of 1.29 billion afghani. The director general of the Ministry of Light Industry and Foodstuffs regarding the aid given to cotton growers stated the following: All possible help and guidance have been extended to cotton farmers of the provinces by the Ministry of Light Industry and Foodstuff through gin and press institutions and by the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform through its provincial departments.

In conclusion he said: Effort is being made to convert cotton purchasing stations into major cotton centers in order to spare farmers waste of time and confusion.

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AFGHANISTAN

FERTILIZERS, PESTICIDES, IMPROVED SEEDS GIVEN TO FARMERS

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 28 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] In view of the fact that landless and near landless peasants and mid-level farmers, especially those who have come to own land during the democratic land and water reforms, are in dire need of various assistance, the DRA government, in addition to its other aid programs for farmers, each year has placed quantities of chemical fertilizers, farming products, loans, improved seeds and other types of assistance at the disposal of farmers. Such aid increases year by year. In 1362 [21 March 1983-20 March 1984] a total of 112,000 tons of various fertilizers, worth 62.3 million afghani, agricultural and livestock breeding insecticides and pesticides, 13,000 tons of improved wheat seed, 4,600 tons of cotton seed for cultivation, four tons of sugar beet seed and the equivalent of 312.6 million afghani in cash aid were distributed to farmers nationwide.

In the current year, in line with the need for increased aid according to plans, the aid distributed to farmers nationwide will consist of 116,000 tons of chemical fertilizers, 65 million afghani worth of chemicals for agriculture and livestock breeding, 14,000 tons of improved wheat seed, 2,600 tons of improved cotton seed, 400 kilograms of various types of seeds for planting and vegetables, and the equivalent of 355 million afghani in the form of loans.

According to plans for the coming year [21 March 1985-20 March 1986] farmers will receive 119,000 tons of various types of fertilizers, 70 million afghani worth of agricultural and livestock breeding insecticides and pesticides, 15,000 tons of various kinds of improved wheat and 4,800 tons of improved cotton seed. This reflects the serious approach of our revolutionary government in helping our farmers.

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AFGHANISTAN

CONSUMERS COOPERATIVES SAID TO ASSIST, BENEFIT PEOPLE

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 25 Feb 85 p 6

[Text] The PDPA and our revolutionary government have striven and are striving with all the resources they have at hand to create a new and prosperous society and maintain the peace and welfare of our country's free and toiling people.

The opening of consumer cooperatives within the framework of the DRA's Farmer Cooperatives Union under the leadership and continuous support of our revolutionary party and government is an extremely big and important step towards meeting the urgent needs for consumers goods that the farmers and other of the country's toilers have.

Although it has been a short time from the founding of the Farmers Cooperatives Union in the DRA, the party and government have given it serious attention. Thus in order to serve and improve the lives of the farmers and toilers, the DRA's Farmers Cooperatives Union has activated 130 consumer cooperatives and 178 stores selling consumer and agricultural goods in the cities, districts and sub-districts. A total of more than 50,000 farmers and other toilers from our cities and villages have been organized in these cooperatives and are making use of the cooperatives' offerings.

The DRA's Farmers Cooperatives Union's consumer cooperatives supply high-quality consumers goods needed by the country's farmers and other toilers either domestically or from friendly countries, particularly the Soviet Union, and sell these goods to the country's toilers. In addition, the cooperatives purchase surplus agricultural products from the country's farmers at reasonable prices and sell it to urban toilers through the agricultural produce stores.

Prior to the opening and activation of the consumer cooperatives, our farmers and toilers were compelled to purchase the consumer goods they needed at inflated prices from the bazaar, and a minority of profiteers would purchase the farmers' crops at low prices and sell them in the cities to urban toilers at inflated prices. With the opening of stores selling consumer goods, on the one hand the grip of the profiteers on the throats of our country's farmers and toilers has been severed and on the other hand, the consumer cooperatives have played a major and determining role in creating a balanced price and preventing price rises in the bazaar.

The expansion and strengthening of the cooperative movement and the organization of farmers, tradesmen, workers and all the country's toilers in one social and economic organization is the best means for the growth and perfection of society and the creation of strong foundations for a new and just society which is the longstanding hope of Afghanistan's toiling people.

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AFGHANISTAN

COOPERATIVES STRIVE FOR LOWER PRICES

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 25 Feb 85 p 6

[Text] The Bank Consumer Cooperative was created in July 1980 to fight against price-gougers and speculators. At the beginning this cooperative was able to attract 1,112 workers and employees. The cooperative's initial capital was 3,000,000 afghanis and it had five stores.

In 1983 this cooperative gained membership in the Kabul City Cooperative Union. The number of cooperative members has risen so far to 3,581 and the number of its stores has increased to 11, which are located in various parts of the city to serve Kabul's citizens. The cooperative's current capital is 7,500,000 afghanis. With the possibility of financial resources next year, the cooperative plans to take broader steps both to attract new members and to create more stores. This cooperative had a net profit of 1,200,000 afghanis. The sales of the cooperative during the past 15 months of the current year reached 20,000,000 afghanis. In addition the Banks' Consumer Cooperative has established four stores selling consumer goods in order to provide more services to the toilers in the struggle against price-gouging. These cooperatives supply goods needed by citizens who have not yet obtained cooperative membership at lower than market prices.

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CSO: 4665/60

AFGHANISTAN

CONSUMER STORES CREATED

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 25 Feb 85 p 5

[Text] In honor of the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the PDPA, in order to supply the goods needed by our citizens and to stabilize prices, the number of wholesale consumer goods stores has increased by 23.

According to a report from a source in Kabul's sixth party district, during the current year the DRA's Ministry of Trade has imported a sufficient quantity of needed consumer goods such as sugar, tea, wheat, vegetable oil, powdered milk, meat, eggs, petroleum products, liquid gas, matches, textiles, shoes, clothes, household goods and other needed items in order to meet our citizen's necessities. Furthermore, the friendly country of the Soviet Union has increased its free assistance during the past 4 years, providing goods needed by the public and consumer items. During 1984 the free assistance from the friendly country reached 98,000,000 rubles, including petroleum and agricultural products and consumer goods. Through this assistance 2,616,320 afghanis of income were realized.

Due to the improvement of conditions for wholesale trade in the governmental sector, price stability and the prevention of impermissible profits, wholesale trade in the government sector during the current year has reached 10,613,000,000 afghanis, which in comparison with the year 1362 [March 1983-March 1984] shows an increase of 1,086,000,000 afghanis.

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AFGHANISTAN

EDUCATION TO RECEIVE MORE ATTENTION NEXT YEAR

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 24 Feb 85 p 1

/Text/ At the Tutia elementary school this year 1,000 students were attracted to the scouting organization. This figure is unprecedented among the elementary schools for girls in Kabul. In Guhari school traffic classrooms, a laboratory, a sewing club, social and home economics branches and an audio-visual room have been created, which have an effective role in mental development and raising the educational level of the students. The above facts were stated by Jamaliyah Zaman-anvari, deputy chief of education in Kabul, to HEYWAD's correspondent. He added: In this year's educational plan students are studying in the school in three shifts, which has been a bit hard on them. However, the Ministry of Education and Kabul Education Directorate have organized the educational plan for the year 1985-1986 in such a way that all the students in school must study in two shifts, so that they can continue their lessons in a better way and return home earlier.

He said: There are 79,739 students in 1,767 branches at Kabul's 39 elementary schools for girls, in which 2,145 teachers teach grades one through eight. This number includes new students for the 1985-1986 educational year, and the schools are registering an increasing number of new students every day. During the 1984-1985 educational year, 4,053 students graduated from eighth grade and went on to high school.

Kabul's deputy director for education said: Kabul's elementary schools for girls have 6 health centers, 3 audio-visual branches, 52 literacy classes for janitorial employees, 7 kindergartens, 14 traffic classrooms, and 3 laboratory branches at the disposal of the students. There are also 32 primary organizations, 22 scouting organizations, 20 friendship classrooms and 3 libraries in these schools. All these affairs are administratively supervised by experienced teachers who guide the students.

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CSO: 4665/61

AFGHANISTAN

WOMEN PARTICIPATE EQUALLY IN PRODUCTION

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 12 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] A woman must share in social production if she is to be free and on true equal footing with man. Thus will a woman and a man have equal status.

The leader of the world's toilers considers this important principle in the extensive use of women's labor in social production as the essential basis for resolving the question of women.

This does not mean that women and men use equal physical strength in social production and that women do the kind of work that men are obligated to perform, but rather that in the employment of women in social production, their role as mothers should always be taken into consideration.

The participation of women in social production following the splendid Saur Revolution has been realized to a significant degree and this triumphant program is continuing. Conditions of work for women in the public sectors is improving. Numerous women are being absorbed in productive work and have the right to equal work and pay as men. Toiling women are taking part in work competitions in factories as well as other labor, agricultural and productive institutions, take active part in task groups and receive medals and commendations for their useful social work.

Convinced that the decisive safeguarding of the revolution and its benefits and the establishment of nationwide security are the foremost responsibility of our toilers, the courageous women of our country bravely take up arms and defend the revolution, the land and their injured people shoulder to shoulder with their epic-creating brothers.

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CSO: 4665/45

AFGHANISTAN

WOMEN'S COUNCIL IN FARAH BOASTS 450 MEMBERS

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 12 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] Maryam Effat, deputy secretary of the provincial council of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan in Farah Province stated the following to the correspondent of HEYWAD regarding the work and activities of the council in question: The council has 450 aware and fighting members who are housewives, teachers and students. The toiling women who make up the members of the Farah provincial council of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan have been able to render valuable services in the women's literacy program.

The council has initiated 25 literacy courses in which more than 100 housewives are enrolled and, in honor of the 20th founding anniversary of the PDPA, it has set up two new literacy courses in which 20 women are enrolled.

The Farah provincial council of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan, in addition to its other activities, visits the families of martyrs and presents them with gifts. And it has opened a kindergarten for the children of teachers and employees of the council.

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CSO: 4665/45

AFGHANISTAN

FARMERS CONSIDERED BACKBONE OF REVOLUTION

Kabul ANIS in Dari 10 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] Since an estimated 60 percent of our society is made up of landless and near landless rural dwellers and nomadic livestock breeders, there is no better way to improve the living conditions of these vast segments of toilers than by doing away completely with vestiges of feudalism. For this reason, "the implementation of democratic land and water reforms is not only among major social and economic factors but is important politically too."

The welfare of the vast masses of toilers of the country, i.e. the peasants, workers and other strata residing in our country, can only be assured through complete and democratic land and water reforms.

At the final session of the land and water seminar, the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA in reference to mistakes made during the first phase of the country's land reforms stated the following: "The history of the country's revolutionary movement and the history of other successful revolutions in the world attest to the fact that the ruling, oppressor and exploiting classes will not easily give up their privileges. This was also evident during the first phase of land reforms in this country. Today we do not intend to say much about shortcomings and mistakes of the first phase but point out that the first phase of land reforms was carried out without a full understanding of class characteristics and the antifeudal attitude involved, thus resulting in the holdings of a large number of landowners remaining untouched while small parcels of land were redistributed in smaller pieces."

Bearing in mind the pithy and meaningful comment of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council to the effect that: "the peasants are the backbone of our revolution," the aforementioned person has divided our toiling peasants into three categories, explaining that from the point of view of class differences there are those who are landless, those with small and medium holdings and the landless peasants who have no means of production and are indigent and face an unpleasant life. In reality, peasants are workers and if as a result of land reforms, do not come to own land, they will either have no choice but to work for landowners or migrate to the cities.

Landless peasants are being cruelly exploited by landowners and come under their dominance or become dependent upon them. If peasants with small holdings who usually lack equipment fail to get more land as a result of land reforms, especially those with big families, they will be forced to lay themselves open to exploitation by big landowners or abandon their holding in order to make a living for their family.

The medium level farmers are able to feed their families and to take a part of their farm output to market. They are under the influence of large landowners, with a segment of them becoming landless peasants and a segment turning into large landowners. We know of cases in recent years where a number of mid-level farmers, benefiting from high prices of farm products, have come to own more land and more wealth. Although, from the point of view of strata divisions within the class, the situations of peasants in various parts of the country differ, these general assessments hold true. It is essential that we give serious consideration to these assessments so that we do not make other mistakes."

It was because of these very social realities that a commission was set up in the new stage of the April Revolution under the leadership of Babrak Karmal by the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers that resulted in important changes in Decree No 8 of the DRA Revolutionary Council regarding land and land ownership law, with important legislative documents being approved. The changes resulted in the elimination of a major defect, in that small holdings would no longer have to be broken up into smaller parcels for redistribution.

For example, Article 10 of Decree No 8 has been modified to read: Land is divided into three categories and seven grades. The following coefficient factors will be taken into account for adjustments to Grade I:

First Category (Orchard, Vineyard, Two-Seasonal Irrigated)

First grade land (orchard, vineyard)...coefficient of 1.00;

Second grade land (two-seasonal irrigated)...coefficient of 0.85.

Second Category (One-Seasonal Irrigated)

Third grade land i.e., one seasonal land of which 50 percent or more is cultivated or irrigated annually...coefficient of 0.67;

Fourth grade land, i.e., one season land of which 15 percent to 50 percent is cultivated or irrigated annually...coefficient of 0.20;

Third Category (Dry Farming)

Fifth grade land of which less than 15 percent is cultivated and irrigated annually and one-piece dry farm land which is cultivated every other year...coefficient of 0.10;

Sixth grade dry-farming land, i.e., one-piece land which is cultivated at 2-year intervals...coefficient of 0.15;

Seventh grade dry-farming land, i.e., dry farming land which is cultivated at intervals of more than 2 years...0.10. And in accordance with the modified Article 12 of the abovementioned decree, one unit of conditionally free land will be distributed to needy families in one of the aforementioned grades:

- 1--First grade orchard and vineyard: 5 acres
- 2--Second grade 2-seasonal irrigated: 6 acres
- 3--Third grade 1-seasonal irrigated: 8 acres
- 4--Fourth grade 1-seasonal irrigated: 12 acres
- 5--Fifth grade 1-seasonal irrigated of which less than 15 percent is annually irrigated: 25 acres
- 6--Fifth grade dry-farming land: 25 acres
- 7--Sixth grade dry-farming land: 33 acres
- 8--Seventh grade dry-farming land: 50 acres

And as a result of modified Article 24, those deserving land are determined according to the following descriptions:

The deserving--first priority

- 1) A landless peasant engaged in cultivation and work on land eligible for distribution;
- 2) A landless or near landless peasant whose land, which he cultivated and worked on, has been taken over by the government in the public interest;

The deserving--second priority

A landless peasant and farm worker of a village where land is available for distribution.

The deserving--third priority

A near landless peasant of a village where extra land is available after land has been distributed to the deserving under first and second priorities;

The deserving--fourth priority

A landless peasant of a district and a nomad who normally spend a part of the year in the district where land is available for distribution;

The deserving--fifth priority

A landless peasant and a farm worker of a province where land is available for distribution;

The deserving--sixth priority

A landless peasant or a deserving nomad who, because of a lack of land, do not get local land and are willing to be given land in other localities and provinces.

Transfer and change of locality will be done according to regulations.

A small parcel of land will, in the first instance, be given to a small holder whose land abuts that of another; in the second instance to a landowner with common borders with others, and otherwise to a landowner whose holding is the smallest in the locality and the addition will not exceed the set limit.

In enclosure No 1 of Article 20 of Decree No 8, the use of arid areas is defined as follows: "In cases where arid areas exist alongside a piece or pieces of land, with no possibility of such arid areas turning into arable land because of a lack of water, neighboring farmers and landowners can convert such land into woodland or grazing land. In such an event and until such land becomes agricultural, neighboring landowners and livestock breeders can, after forming a cooperative and obtaining permission from the district or local land reform office, put up buildings, fences and develop and utilize such arid land in the form of grazing land and woodland and in improving the greenery of the region."

In addition to the abovementioned modifications in Decree No 8, Enclosure No 1 to the same decree regarding land was approved by the executive board of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, which affirms continued implementation of democratic land reforms and at the same time strongly stresses full observance of the principle of the legal right of landowners to their holdings, respect for religious and tribal customs and traditions, appreciation of the services of leaders of tribes and nationalities as well as officers of the armed forces of the DRA engaged in the defense of the revolution and borders of the country and increasing the mechanization of farming in order to boost agricultural output and thus elevate the standards of living of the hardworking people of Afghanistan.

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CSO: 4665/46

AFGHANISTAN

GOVERNMENT SAID HELPING CLERGY

Kabul ANIS in Dari 28 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] Following its progressive and humanitarian policy our revolutionary party and government, in the same way that it has provided valuable services for all toiling strata and classes of the country, has provided for the religious authorities and the clergy who in the past suffered greatly the bases for religious patriotic activities and has never refrained from extending any kind of help to them. Here we have an interview by the correspondent of this newspaper with one of the patriotic religious leaders of the country.

In response to a question, Maulawi Abdol-Qoddus, a member of the High Council of Religious Leaders and Clergy of the DRA, said: Before the victory of the April revolution, our lives, the lives of religious leaders and the clergy, filled with pain and torment, most religious authorities and the clergy were under pressure and oppression of the exploitative feudal class and they were not in a position then to preach Koranic guidance or to explain the light of Mohammad's teachings to the people. But, fortunately, we see today that sacred Islam is deeply revered by our revolutionary party and government and each year the government spends large sums of money in constructing, repairing and painting of mosques and the holy places. In Afghanistan today religious leaders and the clergy enjoy respect and high standing. The honorable Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, speaking at the nationwide conference of religious leaders and clergy, referred in high terms in expressing appreciation for the noble propagational and progressive services rendered by the country's patriotic religious leaders, comments which were a source of great honor for us, the religious leaders of the country. We try to be patriotic, religious preachers for the people and to explain the realities of the April Revolution to toiling Muslims. Moreover, we, the religious leaders of the country, are cognizant of the fact that the High Council of Religious Leaders and Clergy is a group member of the National Fatherland Front which, with its great and popular goals, has brought about unity and solidarity among the people of Afghanistan under the guidance of the PDPA. We too, therefore, will accurately reflect in our sermons and preachings the humanitarian goals of the National Fatherland Front and will continue our orientation activities in regard to the popular aims of the National Fatherland Front.

He expressed his appreciation for the privileges extended by our revolutionary party and government to the religious authorities and the clergy and said: Now privileges such as ration coupons and monthly allowances, which were not available before, are provided to the mullahs, preachers, prayer callers of mosques and preachers of tragic religious narrations and eulogies.

In cold weather the government supplies mosques with firewood so that worshippers can exercise their religious rites in comfort. In addition, housing facilities have been constructed near most mosques to accommodate mullahs and their families and thus provide us with additional comfort.

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CSO: 4665/51

AFGHANISTAN

PLACES OF WORSHIP REPAIRED, RENOVATED

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 1 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] In the past, that is, in the years before the revolution in our beloved country of Afghanistan, the leaders and kings of those periods paid little attention to mosques and places of worship. As a result, the mosques of the Sunni, the Shiite places of worship and mourning and the assembly places of our brothers of the Ismailieh sect had to bear the burden of protection and upkeep of their places of worship. Except for a few large prayer mosques, governments of the day provided little help and aid for other holy places and sites. Fortunately, following the victory of the April Revolution, specially its new and evolutionary stage, the General Department of Islamic Affairs, in line with the saying of the Koran, "And he who magnifieth offerings consecrated to Allah, is surely doing so from devotion of the heart," turned its attention to the mosques and places of worship which had been left run-down and dilapidated from the past and their upkeep and renovation had been beyond the means of residents and neighbors, and spent huge sums of money in repairing and refurbishing those sacred places. In line with a saying of the Koran, "He only shall tend Allah's sanctuaries who believeth in Allah and the last day" and the text of the Koran, until now some 60 new mosques have been built for worshippers and approximately 1,200 mosques in the capital and throughout the provinces have been renovated or refurbished. In addition to previous Shiite places of worship, another large one by the name of Takieh-Khaneh-ye Qayemeh has been built with huge sums provided by the government. The ancient and large Chandawal place of worship (takiyeh), which had been burned by the counterrevolutionaries, has been rebuilt and refurnished at a cost of 8 million afghani. The large and historic Jame' mosque of Pol-e Tekhnik, which was damaged by a bomb placed by the counterrevolutionaries, resulting in the death of a number of religious personalities and the injury of several worshippers, was rebuilt and refurbished at a cost of 4 million afghani. Our Ismailieh brothers, who in the past may have had secret places of worship in some localities, now--as a result of the deep respect which the government has for religion, sacred Islam and the freedom of worship and assembly--included in its program of action three places of assembly and worship and they can follow their religion in a tranquil atmosphere.

In view of the guidance of verses of the Koran, prophetic commands and traditions that: "He who builds a mosque for God, God shall build a palace for

him in paradise," the party and the DRA government, despite economic slump, have up to now spent 181.7 million afghani in the construction, repair and renovation of mosques, places of worship and holy places in the capital and provinces. This figure is unprecedented in Afghan history. Such expenditures for religious purposes were not only undertaken by the party and the government but were warmly welcomed by the people who for their part contributed substantially to the outlay.

The people have joined hands with their party and government in improving religious affairs and in seeking the greening and the blooming of the land.

The party and the government of Afghanistan, under the leadership of the honorable Babrak Karmal, are so imbued with the importance, greatness and outlook of sacred Islam that Babrak Karmal personally went to the large and ancient Jam'e mosque in the central Kabul sector of Chaman--the mosque which was in a dilapidated condition because of the negligence of bygone kings with its doors closed, and directed the mayor of Kabul to begin early repair and renovation of the holy place.

Such aid, assistance and kind attention by the party and the government are decisive proof of the strengthening of sacred Islam in Afghanistan, something which never existed before. Those who resort to propaganda and say that Afghanistan is in danger we respectfully ask that they come and, relying on verses of the Koran and prophetic traditions, discuss the matter with us and judge in the sight of God what they see for themselves. No force or power can place in danger a country where Islam has 1,375 years of history. And neither will true Muslims pay attention to such lies, falsehoods and propaganda. We are of our beloved country, and the saying "Love of country springs from faith" is our motto. We shall strengthen Islam more than ever before and with our labor and the strength of our hands we will share in the building, the greening and the blossoming of our fatherland.

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CSO: 4665/51

AFGHANISTAN

MAZAR-E SHARIF SILO PROVIDES JOBS, PUBLIC SERVICES

Kabul ANIS in Dari 28 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] The Mazar-e Sharif silo, along with other industrial and productive installations in Balkh Province, is providing valuable services to the people in supplying foodstuffs. A source at the Mazar-e Sharif silo said: This silo began activity on 11 November 1983 and it produces first and second quality breads, etc.

The source explained: The silo's bread factory works around the clock and has three shifts of workers. It produces 12.5 tons of cooked products and the silo's production is distributed among the armed forces and the city's citizens.

He said: In this facility there are a total of 232 workers and technical employees. The bakery section utilizes 110 persons and the other 122 persons are employed in other technical and administrative areas. Of the factory's workers and technical personnel, 20 are women and the rest are men.

The source added: In order to spread literacy and learning, free literacy courses are offered in the silo and there are 90 illiterate workers taking the courses. Today, there are workers who formerly did not recognize even a single letter but now they easily can read signs and even the news and newspapers. The source explained: A trade union has been created in this institution. All the workers are members of this union which resolves all the workers' problems. Also there is a youth organization in the Mazar-e Sharif silo which currently has 22 young workers as its members.

Layla, one of the female workers in the bakery branch, in response to a question stated: I have been working in the bakery branch as a grade-8 worker for 8 months now and I am totally satisfied with my work and duty. My labors are praised and the trade union solves many of our problems. I am a member of the union. Something that is very valuable to me in my life is learning to read and write. Formerly I was illiterate but now I can read signs and the news, in addition to the literacy books. This is one of the greatest honors in my life.

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CSO: 4665/56

AFGHANISTAN

GOVERNMENT SEEKS FARMERS WELFARE IN LAND REFORM

Kabul ANIS in Dari 28 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] Feudalism, which has lasted more than 1,500 years in Afghanistan, is characterized by large landlord property holdings and by the black poverty and destitution of the farmers--the basic masses who failed to obtain land. The middle of the 17th century is recorded as the historical end to the feudal era, and in Europe this period coincides with the decline of the feudal regimes and the beginning of the new era, that is the capitalistic era. However, in our country, the strong feudal remnants comprising the dominant form of social relations in the life of all the people in the villages lasted until the victory of the revolution. Before the beginning of the land reforms during the revolution's first year, less than 3 percent of the land owners possessed 28.6 percent of the agricultural land and more than 1 million families either possessed no land or less than the needed amount of land.

The vile regimes of the past, which ignored solving the land problem to benefit the farmers, not only trampled under foot social justice for the largest portion of the country's population to benefit a tiny exploitative minority, but also are historically responsible for preventing the country's progress towards economic and social development by preserving the basic factor in the slow growth of the productive forces. In this regard we quote a statement of Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and the president of the DRA's Revolutionary Council, at a splendid meeting on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the PDPA's founding: "The historic service of the PDPA is that it announced democratic land reforms for the first time in history."

It is obvious that the implementation of land reforms during the first stage of the revolution was accompanied by a chain of errors. However, in the revolution's new phase, which our toilers have correctly renamed "the stage of saving the revolution, the country and the people"--not only has an end been put to the deviations and blunders of the past but also broad steps have been taken to correct past mistakes and to regain the masses' vast and complete confidence in the revolutionary party and government. In this phase the greatest attention is being given to realizing land and water reform to benefit the farmers and to have them participate as the main component of the national and democratic revolution. This is one of the most basic, major and pressing revolutionary duties of the party.

In the revolution's new and evolutionary stage the party, as the program of action, stresses the plan of assisting the toiling people and making our ancient land prosper. It is trying through the creation of new land relations and the logical determination of land ownership to create conditions by which the toiling farmers can come to own parcels of land sufficient to provide an ordinary and reasonable livelihood based on social justice and the principles of the sacred religion of Islam.

The efforts of the party in the new government to persistently pursue democratic land and water reforms to benefit the farmers is splendidly evident in all the documents of its plans, laws and orders relating to land and water reforms. Among them are the amendments to Order No 8 concerning land, and the law regulating land ownership and the supplements to it implemented at the end of last year in accordance with the guidance in the statement by Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and the president of the DRA's Revolutionary Council, at the 11th and 12th plenums of the Central Committee, following approval by the governing board of the Revolutionary Council. All of these prove the truth of this matter.

In accordance with the aforementioned reforms, farmers can now own a sufficient parcel of land, meaning up to 3 hectares of first-grade land or the equivalent. To put it differently, the land distribution arrangement, which allocated a maximum of 5 hectares of land of the first grade to each family, has been cancelled. The amendments have removed all the costs arising from transferring and registering deeds within the boundary of the allotment and this fact has once again proven the great assistance by the revolutionary party and the government to continuously increase the welfare of the farmers. The basic and most important issue in the recent amendments was providing for the broad participation of the farmers in implementation of land and water reforms by organizing village farmers councils. According to the recent amendments in the laws and orders relating to land and water reforms, these councils have broad jurisdiction, including fixing the rights of owners, confirming the claims of persons to above ground ownership, and determining the amount of land necessary for each person. Thus the Village Farmers Council makes a decision as to how much land to distribute to each farmer in accordance with the law within the bounds of the allocation. Our people's historic march towards social justice and the building of a prosperous society is advancing, and this historical march on its path of liberation will destroy every sort of injustice to farmers. Experience is recording the undeniable proof of the righteousness, of the path of our party and revolution towards providing prosperity to all the masses, including the nation's farmers.

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CSO: 4665/56

AFGHANISTAN

GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO MEET FARMERS NEEDS

Kabus ANIS in Dari 24 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] The National Fatherland Front, one of the greatest gifts of the April revolution and its new and evolutionary stage, which was created with the purpose of solidifying and uniting the people and mobilizing the workers for the prosperity of the land, has until now achieved significant victories in the unity and solidarity of the people.

The residential councils of the National Fatherland Front, which were created on the basis of the programs of the central council of the organization in various residential localities and neighborhoods and continue to be organized, in addition to bringing about a strong and indestructible unity among noble residents of the country, also have and continue to offer valuable services in resolving problems of the residents of their locality.

Head of the residential council of Qal'eh Musa, a chapter of Kabul's 10th district council of the National Fatherland Front, explained the services rendered to the people by this council and said: The Qal'eh Musa waterway, which provides water needed by area farmers, required dredging and cleaning. In response to the wishes of the people, this was done in two voluntary work shifts during the current year [ending 20 March 1985]. In addition to the farmers, the work included participation by tradesmen, local elders and young folk.

He added: In doing its share of insuring security, the council referred 30 young and enthusiastic people of the area to the Defenders of the Revolution group and set up 6 literacy courses in such localities as Sar-e Ju-ye Qal'eh Musa, behind the N'eman Mosque and behind the Qal'eh Musa power pylon, with 30 farmers, tradesmen and vendors enrolled. These courses are being taught voluntarily by intellectuals of the area in order to help their fellow citizens.

This council referred 5 parentless children to the Watan orphanage and has carried out chores in the 400-bed army hospital and in the Ministry of Education and Training. Moreover, the council's Family Dispute Commission has been able to resolve five family quarrels before they could get out of hand and end in separations, thus being able to reestablish domestic friendship and common understanding between the members of some families.

In conclusion he said: The Qal'eh Musa residential council cooperates with municipality officials in controlling market prices and has assigned 12 of its personnel who daily check the market situation and prevent profiteering.

AFGHANISTAN

WHEAT, FERTILIZER DISTRIBUTED TO FARMERS

Kabul ANIS in Dari 26 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] In order to help the people and tidy up the neighborhood residential areas, the provincial council of the National Fatherland Front of Herat Province carried out 17 voluntary undertakings in the third quarter of the current year, which ended 21 December 1984, by graveling streets and roads, cleaning ditches alongside roads and streets, draining accumulated water in moats of the old city and so on, with 1,846 people taking part voluntarily and earning the treasury 17,352 afghani.

Moreover, 400 persons took part in 7 voluntary undertakings in digging ditches, channels and canals, building water barriers and ditch drainages and repairing irrigation water diverters. The work shifts earned 48,000 afghani.

In giving these details, a source at the economic and social services division of the National Fatherland Front of Herat province said: In the 3rd quarter of the year ending 21 December 1984, the provincial council distributed 2,047 acres of land and 225 land ownership deeds and cooperated in cleaning up residential areas and ensuring the health of the people of the city.

The source added: As a result of the cooperation of personnel of the provincial council 52 agricultural, consumer and handicraft cooperatives were set up in the same period, with a membership of 15,789 people.

The source said: In the same period, the Herat provincial council of the National Fatherland Front set up nine commissions for resolving family disputes and three mixed consultative commissions of parents and guardians of students. In this period, the domestic relations groups were able to resolve 51 family disputes before things reached the separation and disruption stage.

The source added: The provincial council has given 20,700 afghani in aid to the deserving and needy families of those martyred for the revolution. Also the religious leaders, clerics and a number of individuals of the third district of the National Fatherland Front helped with 15,800 afghani to defray the cost of articles needed by the office of that area.

The source said: In the 3rd quarter of the year, which ended 21 December 1984, the provincial council of the National Fatherland Front of Herat Province completed 9 blank forms for prisoners and sent them for action to the Central Committee of the National Fatherland Front of the DRA, referred 98 appeals of citizens to proper channels and introduced 80 persons to Defenders of the Revolution group.

The source added: The personnel of the provincial council have carried out extensive propaganda regarding the high goals of the April revolution and the National Fatherland Front, enabling the noble and toiling people of Herat to understand the legitimacy of the revolution by donating 83,000 afghani to the provincial council for the repair and renovation of three altars of the mosques.

Moreover, the people contributed 500,000 afghani to the provincial council in the Red Crescent week campaign.

The source said in conclusion: The personnel of the Herat provincial council of the National Fatherland Front extended full cooperation in the distribution of 2,446 tons of urea fertilizer, 3,732 tons of phosphate fertilizer, 607 tons of improved wheat seed and plant and animal insecticides and pesticides to the value of 779,310 afghani among farmers.

5854

CSO: 4665/57

AFGHANISTAN

PARTY SUPERVISION AIMED AT IMPROVING AFFAIRS

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 27 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] The PDPA Central Committee's 14th plenum stressed that the true solution of issues and the performance of party responsibilities must involve all of the party, its forces and its circles of activities.

This thesis was perfected and made more clear by comrade Babrak Karmal's statement during the splendid ceremony of the 20th anniversary of the PDPA when he said, "A check on individuals and a true inspection and control of work, demanding responsibility and judicious stricture, is the axis of all affairs and policies."

In addition to what was presented to the party control and oversight commissions at the 12th plenum of the party's Central Committee, this thesis brings to the fore two clear and at the same time related responsibilities regarding party supervision: 1) regulating relationships within the party, supervision to insure unconditional observance of the party program and articles of association and party decisions by party members; 2) and helping the mechanism of government and the economy as a whole.

These two tasks in a way can be linked and taken together in the context of the role of leadership. The party sets the special condition of party supervision which not only includes all facets of internal party life but also all angles of governmental, economic and social activities.

We must know why and in what sense the issue of party supervision is discussed.

We look with confidence to the future and faithfully follow up the transformation process. But at the same time we do not lean toward optimism emanating from selfishness.

Our party today, as the revolutionary ruling body, sees the difficulties and complications of the creative process and its contradictory gravitations in the evolutionary fabric of society itself as well as all dimensions of imperialist meddling and, in specific and clear terms, the inadequacies and unsolved problems for the elimination or solution of which we initiate policies. This, because we believe that the strength and invincibility of our

party rests with its strong and extensive links with the people and in constant self-critical watchfulness.

From the viewpoint of our party, supervision denotes accurate, precise and careful approach in its relation to the toiling individual, a blending of trust and strictness, a blending of trust and alert discipline and in exceptional cases unacceptability as "the axis of all affairs and policies." Therefore, as affirmed by the 14th plenum of the party's Central Committee, we must give the most serious attention to the betterment of the party's control commissions since until now these commissions have had little effect on the solid ranks of the party or in the strengthening of party discipline.

On the other hand, party supervision must help in realizing the policies of the party, in strengthening economic, social and political foundations of society and their evolution and improvement...and in creating the means of realistic appraisal of the specific work of each organization, committee and party member as well as ways to use available possibilities and conditions for the extensive and full use of such possibilities by related economic organs.

It follows that party supervision must be applied in the sense of "the axis of all affairs and policies" by the party as a whole, by all initial organizations and all committees and by each and every party member.

"The party must pay attention to the implementation of the articles of association by its representatives" and moreover, "every party member is responsible to the party and the party is responsible to each of its members."

Insuring such a goal in its most comprehensive form is the foremost and important duty of these commissions. The time comes when one must come out of quarterly and monthly charts and statistics and grasp the importance and essence of supervision by the party.

Party supervision must help in evolving a sense of individual and group responsibility, an atmosphere of friendship and mutual assistance and readiness on the part of party members to carry out designated action. This is the serious desire of the party.

5854

CSO: 4665/5E

AFGHANISTAN

YOUTH TRAINED IN VARIOUS SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

Kabul ANIS in Dari 26 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] Committees and institutions of the Organization of the Democratic Youth of Afghanistan, under the protective guidance of the PDPA, act as its reliable support in the training, development and readiness of the youth in defense of the revolution nationwide. The association is not only involved in organizing young boys but has also started branches that take in girls and women.

In this report you will read about the work and activities of the girls' and women's chapter of the committee of the Organization of the Democratic Youth of Afghanistan of Baghlan Province which reflects similar activities in other provinces.

The girls' and women's chapter which operates under the provincial committee of the youth organization has 742 members in the provincial branch, two urban branches, two district branches and area branches. The activities of the organization are not only limited to schools but are also directed in organizing young girls and women from among the working class and farmers as well as housewives. As part of the initial make-up of these branches, 12 primary organizations for women and young girls are operating in Dowshi district. Brave farm family women and girls are not only active in organizing or taking part in literacy courses alongside the men but are always in a state of revolutionary preparedness to insure the security of their villages against the counterrevolutionaries.

Recently literacy orientation groups returned from various districts after a successful tour. As a result of their effective propaganda they succeeded in encouraging a large number of women to join neighborhood councils and literary courses, explaining to them the light of the revolution, benefits of literacy and the goals of the party and the revolutionary government. Thus, they gained their full confidence. Some staff members of this organization are teaching literacy courses in honorary capacity.

5854
CSO: 4665/58

AFGHANISTAN

PUBLIC HEALTH TO EXTEND TO VILLAGES

Kabul ANIS in Dari 22 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] The DRA government has prepared and provided all the possibilities for a higher level of education, training and procedures for its national medical cadres so that they may be able to upgrade their specialties both in the country and abroad.

In a like manner, the government has tried to revive and protect the rights of medical personnel in the fundamental principles of the DRA and other rules and regulations and has taken the initiative to improve their living conditions for the reason that today's doctor is not connected with the exploitative class but rather is a doctor of the people and the masses who have suffered and are living in the far corners of our country. And the expectation of the masses from today's doctor is that the physician's life must unservedly be in the service of the people, go among them to know them better, provide for their health needs and help them resolve their problems. Fortunately, this noble wish of the people more or less came about after the victory of the revolution with the creation of mobile groups of doctors and nurses, the creation of medical brigades of young people and women and the dispatch of orientation teams composed of party members and members of social institutions and state organs to the provinces; such teams for the most part being accompanied by doctors and personnel of the Public Health Service. In this connection we interviewed Atefeh, a doctor of the gynecology and pediatrics division of the central clinic who recently together with orientation teams went to Qandahar Province to extend medical help to the residents of villages.

Dr Atefeh, who for the past 13 years has been working in her fields of expertise in hospitals in the capital and has gained considerable experience during this time, had this to say in response to my first question: In my first visit to Qandahar Province, where I accompanied orientation teams voluntarily, I went to 28 districts and villages, met the people, especially women and children and treated more than 3,000 women and children who needed medical assistance, something which was welcomed by the residents. The thing which struck me most of all was the people's need for medicines and doctors and even more, a need for knowledge of health matters. Some villages were still in the backward state of ancient times. Superstition existed even in the matter of food and clothing. For example, they believed they

should not give a child eggs because this may cause the child to become mute...and things like that. Anyway, they need guidance. In my opinion, it is necessary that medical personnel travel outside the cities to enlighten the people, for I believe that prevention is better and cheaper than cure.

Dr Atefeh continued: During my stay in Qandahar I used to spend 4 hours each morning according to a fixed program in villages and in the afternoons I used to work at the 250-bed Qandahar hospital where I performed more than a hundred operations on women and children. Unfortunately, the hospital did not have a gynecologist or pediatrician. The hospital building is very attractive, but understaffed and without a permanent director. Most of the operations were successful, however, as a result of lack of proper care by those in charge, the patients would die. I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Public Health to this--that it should pay serious attention to completing the personnel needs of that hospital--because one of the urgent needs of the people there is for responsible doctors and nurses.

5854

CSO: 4665/59

AFGHANISTAN

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE TRAINING COMPLETED BY OVER 500

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 27 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] The training of technical and vocational cadres and personnel for carrying out agricultural and productive functions is a proven and vital need. Development plans will succeed in practice only when the planned work is performed by experienced and knowledgeable individuals.

Speaking in this connection, a source at the Agricultural Cooperative Training Institute responded to a question by the correspondent of HEYWAD by saying: During the current year [which ends 21 March 1985] this institute helped to graduate 504 staff members of various cooperatives and related institutions in 23 courses and workshops. This shows an increase of 209 percent when compared to the initial plan and 10 percent when compared with the first 9 months of last year [21 March 1983-21 December 1984].

Other activities of the Agricultural Cooperative Training Institute during the current year included dispatch of professors from the institute to the provinces of Helmand, Parwan, Balkh, Paktiya and Jowzjan for starting new courses for the members of the boards of directors and supervisory boards, the translation and publication of 26 different booklets on cooperatives, the printing and distribution of 3,660 volumes of these publications, purchase of 130 books for the institute's library and equipping the library with a variety of books and magazines for the use of the students.

The source concluded: It is worth mentioning that in the current year we were able to make an educational movie on the training work of the institute and to obtain from the bazaars of Kabul some material for preparing slides on market research and marketing. Other activities of the institute included holding 250 agricultural cooperative training sessions and 23 cooperative training courses for managing directors in the provinces.

5854

CSO: 4665/59

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

LIBRARIES FOUNDED--In line with the interest of the revolutionary government in enriching education in the country and in order to raise the level of knowledge and to meet scientific needs, up to now 16 libraries have been opened in the capital and 36 others in various provinces of the country since the splendid April Revolution. Of these, the Kabul Public Library is the largest, with 132,000 people using the facilities in the 9 months of this year [ended 20 March 1985]. The library has 13 branches in various parts of the city, which have 119,157 volumes in such fields as politics, culture, education, and agriculture in various languages. In order to enrich the book stock of these libraries, the Public Libraries Office has bought 12,225 books with a value of 461,148 afghani from the Beyhaqqi Institute and private individuals and has received 4,736 other books from various institutions free of charge. [Text] [Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 12 Feb 85 p 1] 5854

LAND DEED DISTRIBUTION IN KONDUZ--In the 10 months of the current year [ending 20 March 1985] 3,141 land deeds were distributed among landless and near landless peasants in Konduz Province, districts of Hazrat-e Emam, Char Darreh and Archi. In the same period the water rights of 3,141 peasants were also registered in the above-mentioned districts. Also, by the 10th month of the current year, 24 peasant councils with a membership of 137 were also created in the same districts. [Text] [Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 28 Feb 85 p 1] 5854

CSO: 4665/55

BANGLADESH

SHANTI BAHINI HIDEOUT CAPTURED, ARMS RECOVERED

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 11 Mar 85 pp 1, 8

[Text]

CHITTAGONG, Mar 10 : Security forces captured a 'Shanti Bahini' hideout at Narajchhari, a village in Bilalchhari upazila under Rangamati district yesterday.

Disclosing this, a government source said twentyone fire-arms and the spares required for using those weapons were recovered from them along with a huge quantity of ammunition.

Six Shanti Bahini men reportedly belonging to Dighila and Bilalchhar area surrendered to the personnel of law-enforcing agency when the operation was going on.

A government spokesman denied a report that three shopkeepers were killed by Shanti Bahini men at Azadi Bazar area under Fatikchhari district on March 8. He said no such clash took place there with the Shanti Bahini men.

According to a report published in a section of the press the Shanti Bahini men numbering about 50 besieged the Azadi Bazar and killed three shopkeepers besides looting cash from the shopkeepers and buyers at gunpoint. The spokesman said, on receiving information, they immediately sent troops to the area and found no trace of any Shanti Bahini men.

The spokesman claimed that there is an increasing awareness among the misguided Shanti Bahini men about the futility of their campaign and a large number of outlawed Shanti Bahini men had already surrendered to the law-

enforcing agencies after the April 25 amnesty declared by the government for the outlawed Shanti Bahini men. The spokesman pointed out the massive development work undertaken by the government for the uplift of the tribal people. The entire hilltracts district was divided into three administrative zones with headquarters at Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban respectively. It has caused increased awakening among the tribal people that the Government was really interested in their development and adventurous acts of so-called Shanti Bahini will bring no good to them.

BSS adds : Six members of so-called Shanti Bahini surrendered to the law enforcing agencies at Dighipala and Bilalchhari recently, according to an official source here today.

The law enforcing agencies also recovered 27 weapons, four barrels, three magazines and 195 rounds of ammunition from Marajchhari of Bilalchhar in Mahilla Sabeayong and Ramu from March 3 to 9, the source said.

The official source said that acting on secret information a contingent of security forces raided a camp of Shanti Bahini at Narajchhar in Bilalchhari yesterday and recovered twentytwo weapons and four barrels. Five more weapons and three magazines with 195 rounds of ammunition were also recovered from Mahilla Sabeayong, Ramu and Bilalchhari during March 3 to March 9.

INDIA

NEW RAJASTHAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SWORN IN

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 12 Mar 85 p 9

[Text] JAIPUR, March 11--A SEVEN-MEMBER council of ministers, including five of cabinet rank, was formed today by the chief minister, Mr. Hardeo Joshi. These ministers were administered the oath of office and secrecy by the governor, Mr. O. P. Mehra, at Raj Bhavan.

Mr. Narendra Singh Bhati, Mr. Ram Pal Upadhya, Mrs. Kamla, Mr. Gulab Singh Shaktawat and Mr. Ram Dev Singh are the ministers of cabinet rank, while Mr. Sheesh Ram Ola and Mr. Ghoga Ram Bakolia are the ministers of state.

There will be no expansion of the ministry till the end of the next assembly session, which is likely to begin on March 19. It has not yet been decided whether in this session a full budget would be passed or a vote-on-account taken. The duration of the session has not been decided yet.

CM'S Charges

Mr. Joshi has kept with him as many as 36 departments which include home, industry, planning, anti-corruption, finance, taxation, local self-government, town planning, personnel and administration, general administration and animal husbandry.

Talking to newsmen after the swearing-in ceremony, Mr. Joshi said that he had formed a small cabinet as the assembly for session was very close. He said Mr. B. D. Kalla, a former minister, higher education, would be the chief whip of the party in the state assembly.

The speaker will be the former chief minister, Mr. Heera Lal Deopura. Mr. Joshi said that he had proposed the name of Maharawal Laxman Singh, the oldest MLA, as the pro-tem speaker.

Mr. Joshi said that he had not decided whether the deputy speaker would be from the ruling party or from the opposition. He was yet to consult his colleagues on this issue.

His priorities, the chief minister pointed out, were a good and clean government and development of the backward classes and areas and the eradication of

poverty. Effective steps would be taken to tone up the administration and improve the finances of the state.

Asked about the law and order situation in the state, the chief minister said that it was much better than in other states. However, he pointed out that if any steps were still needed to improve law and order, they would be accorded top priority.

If the incumbents were virtually taken aback when telephonically told just an hour earlier to attend the swearing-in ceremony, the choice of ministers has evoked mixed reactions in the ruling party.

What must be quite galling to the former chief minister, Mr. Shiv Charan Matnur, who had to quit in the wake of the Man Singh shooting episode, is that Mr. Narendra Singh Bhati and Mr. Ram Pal Upadhyay, whom he had removed in his second ministerial reshuffle over three years ago, have not only staged a comeback but have been elevated to cabinet rank.

JAT Domination

The Pahadia group too has reason to be unhappy over the exclusion of Mr. Hanuman Prasad Prabhakar who had been eased out by Mr. Mathur along with Mr. Bhati and others.

Party circles are, in fact, surprised that the choice of ministers does not reflect what Mr. Rajiv Gandhi has been arriving to do--infusing young blood. The younger lot feels that in the new set-up its influence will be reduced.

Reports about the possibility of the young MP from Jodhpur, Mr. Ashok Gehlot, being considered for chief ministership had elated young MLAs. But their hopes suffered a crippling blow with the drubbing the Congress faced in Jodhpur division in the assembly poll.

Mr. Hardeo Joshi's team of ministers is dominated by Jats. There are three of them, Mrs. Kamla, Mr. Ram Dev Singh and Mr. Sheesh Ram Ola. The Rajputs number two--Mr. Narender Singh Bhati and Mr. Gulab Singh Shaktawat. There is one Brahmin, Mr. Ram Pal Upadhyaya, and one belongs to the schedule castes--Mr. Choga Ram Bakolia.

Except Mrs. Kamla, those who have got cabinet rank in the ministry were earlier ministers of state or deputy ministers.

CSO: 4600/1419

IRAN

TECHNICAL, SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CHINA

Tehran BURS in Persian 6 Feb 85 p 2

/Text/ The text of the agreement on cultural, scientific and technical cooperation between the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the government of the People's Republic of China, which was approved in an open session of the Majlis on Tuesday, is as follows. The agreement on cultural, scientific and technical cooperation between the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the government of the People's Republic of China consisting of an introduction and ten articles as described in the attachment is approved and permission for the exchange of its documents is granted.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The agreement on cultural, scientific and technical cooperation between the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China;

The government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the government of the People's Republic of China, in order to strengthen friendly relations between the two countries and to cooperate in the cultural, artistic, educational and athletic fields, have decided to conclude this agreement and agreed on the following:

Article 1: The contracting parties will strive to expand cultural, scientific and technical relations between the two countries on the basis of the principles of respect for sovereignty and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of one another and on the basis of mutual action and regard for mutual interests.

Article 2: The contracting parties will encourage cultural, scientific and technical relations in the following fields:

- A. Cooperation between universities, educational and research institutions.
- B. Exchange of information and publications in the fields of art, literature, philosophy, religion, archeology and history.

C. Exchange of experts and researchers in the fields of culture, education and art for the purposes of study in the specialty fields of interest to the two parties.

Section D has been amended as follows.

D. Mutual exchanges in the area of movie films and television.

E. Organizing reciprocal visits of cultural groups and cultural exhibitions, and organizing the reciprocal visits and contests of athletic teams.

Article 3: The contracting parties, in accordance with the relevant state regulations and according to their ability, will facilitate the exchange of university professors, teachers and researchers whom the government of each party thus recommends.

Article 4: Each one of the contracting parties will encourage teaching of the language of the other party at its universities to the greatest possible extent.

Article 5: Each one of the contracting parties, within the framework of its laws and regulations, will provide the necessary accommodations for the citizens of the other party introduced by their sovereign government to carry out specialty studies in its universities, colleges, libraries and museums.

Article 6: The contracting parties will encourage reciprocal granting of scholarships.

Article 7: The contracting parties will in an official capacity and within the framework of their relevant regulations take the necessary actions to expand cooperation in the radio-television field and to establish a news agency branch or appoint correspondents residing in each other's capitals.

Article 8: Each of the contracting parties in light of its state structure will entrust the work of compiling, coordinating, pursuing and implementing exchange programs to an identified executive office.

Each of the contracting parties will assign the relevant section of its embassy the responsibility for maintaining contact with the identified office of the other party.

Any time one of the contracting parties deems it necessary, it can propose to the other party convening a joint meeting in order to study and discuss the progress of cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Article 9: This agreement, following the approval procedures based on the domestic laws of each of the contracting parties, must go into effect from the date of the issuance of the final notice to the other party.

Article 10: The present agreement is valid for a period of 5 years, and after that will be automatically extended for another 5-year period unless one of the contracting parties announces its intention to annul it by means of a written notice six months in advance of the termination of the period.

This agreement was composed on 22 Shahrivar 1362 corresponding to 14 September 1983 in the city of Peking in two copies in the languages of Farsi, Chinese and English, each of the three texts is as good as the other. In case of the emergency of a disagreement over interpretation, the English text will be valid for clarification. For the government of Islamic Republic of Iran Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs. For the government of the People's Republic of China Wu Shu Chen, supreme state advisor and minister of foreign affairs.

9597

CSO: 4640/469

IRAN

ISLAMIC GUIDANCE MINISTER CALLS FOR PROPER RELATIONS WITH MASS MEDIA

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 23 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] A seminar attended by the officials and directors of public relations departments of central offices was held this morning in the presence of the minister of Islamic guidance, the mayor of Tehran, a group of responsible officials of various departments and public relations directors of government organizations and revolutionary organs.

In this seminar, which will last 2 days, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami, the minister of Islamic guidance in a speech referred to the government systems of the world and said: "At present three kinds of governments exist in the world: dictatorial, democratic and Islamic government. In a dictatorial government, the views and aims of one individual or a special group governs the people. Their laws, which determine relations in society, mainly support that special group. In a humane and democratic government, the place of the individual or a special group is taken by the majority and the majority determines relations in the society. Certainly from a theoretical point of view in these societies some conflicts of interests and opportunities will occur among the individuals. In order to satisfy the unlimited demands and conflicts, the majority's desire is the criterion for action. Since the 16th century, these desires have been materialistic and spiritual ones have been neglected. But in a divine and Islamic government what rules the society and people are spiritual values and virtues whose source is the Providence. God and the establishment of divine rule in the form of religion is created within the framework of divine regulations."

He added: "Today in this part of God's land and in Iran through the will of the Muslim and revolutionary people and interest in unique leadership, the Islamic government was justified. In the lustful world, the only time people rose against corruption with God's consent and established a divine government was in the Muslim nation of Iran. As a general rule, what governs human society, decides the individual's and society's conduct and distinguishes order between the relations of the majority of the people, is justice and virtue determined by God's will which does not belong to a special class and which considers the interests of all human beings."

The minister of Islamic guidance also stated: "In a divine government, a human is too great to be ruled by another human. On the contrary, human

generosity and God's values, which are absolute perfection and virtue, must govern him. Certainly, God calls humans towards absolute perfection and it is the duty of humans to strengthen their ideals and move towards and achieve this perfection. This move towards perfection is only possible through religion which is presented to humans by prophets."

Regarding the people's role in a divine rule he said: "When religion is not used as a basis to rule, the people must be present and participate in their destiny and this is the difference between a divine government and the other governments in the world."

In another part of his speech he said: "In today's societies, the most important channel of communication with the people is the mass media. Public relations has a dual role among the people and organizations. Their most important role is to establish proper relations with the mass media. If this relation is established, we will witness good progress. Also, in regard to the creation of mass media, its activities, position and policy are part of the administrative apparatus and in addition to news, the mass media should stop society from following slogans and expose it to the current facts. Most importantly, the public relations will be exposed to the activities of the organs and this will provide the grounds for a healthy transfer."

"Another important task for public relations is the creation of harmony in different parts of the government organizations. With due attention to the expansion of bureaucracy in our society, most of the administrative organizations are separate from each other. The public relations offices must bring the proper authorities of the organizations closer to each other and make them one unified body."

"Therefore, the task of the public relations offices is to create harmony and understanding." In this regard he added: "Unfortunately in our society, the true bearings of public relations is not recognized yet, whereas public relations offices are the most important part of an administration and have a dual duty: From one viewpoint they are the eye and heart of the organizations in society and whatever they feel in the society must be reported to the proper authorities. From another viewpoint they are the tongues of the organizations among the people. Therefore, it is necessary for public relations offices, especially those which are in the center of activities, to be a strong force, clear thinking, dominant and skillful."

In continuation of this seminar, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami, the minister of Islamic guidance, and the officials of the public relations offices visited the booths established on the seminar grounds.

9815

CSO: 4640/432

IRAN

MONTAZERI URGES QUICK ATTENTION TO PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 23 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] Qom--Grand Ayatollah Montazeri emphasized the greater use of scholars and clerics in the villages to teach Islamic education in rural primary and high schools and for providing more opportunities for teaching religious jurisprudence and the religious affairs of Sunnites in their regions by devout Sunnite clergy who believe in the revolution. He also recommended paying more attention to teacher's rights, giving sufficient opportunities to them, and bringing the school and mosque environment closer to each other. He asked the education and training committee of the Islamic Majlis to make more use of devout specialists in developing training programs.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in a meeting with the members of the education and training committee of the Islamic Majlis referred to the importance of primary and high school education and referred to the complexity and difficulty of high school Islamic education textbooks and emphasized that these textbooks must be written in a simple and comprehensible language for teaching.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in a meeting with the governor general, governors and district governors of the Central Province, after complementing their activities stated: "Use your efforts not to involve people in administrative meandering and red tape and perform your duties quickly and without keeping people waiting and if their work does not pertain to you, guide them to the proper office."

Grand Ayatollah also emphasized people's employment and said: "You must bear in mind the standards of ability and commitments. Impositions and formation of smaller groups within groups must be discarded and individuals must be given constructive and useful chances in order for the country to grow and for the weak points to be eliminated." In his speech he referred to the point that attracting opportunists, flatterers, and the weak will stop the growth of the country and decay the revolution from within and stated: "In this case a blow will be inflicted on the very principle of the revolution and we will not have any excuse before God."

He also emphasized the need for proper authorities to abstain from being selfish and self-centered which are but the causes of all the miseries and downfalls throughout the course of history.

9815

CSO: 4640/432

IRAN

ARMENIAN ARCHBISHOP SENDS MESSAGE ON OCCASION OF '10 DAYS OF DAWN'

Tehran SOBH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 9 Feb 85 p 17

/Text/ Armenian Archbishop Ardak Manukian of the Tehran archdiocese in a message has announced that the bells of Armenian churches will toll in honor of 22 Bahman.

A part of the message reads: Six years ago the people of Iran rose up against the oppressions and injustices of the super powers and, in putting into effect their determination to get rid of their presence and to have an independent leadership, led the Islamic revolution to victory and established the Islamic Republic of Iran under the wise guidance of imam Khomeyni.

From the very beginning, Armenians too demonstrated their active presence in the advancement of the revolution, taking their place alongside Muslim Iranians. And in the imposed war, Armenians hastened to help at the battlefronts and Armenian soldiers are now fighting at various fronts alongside their Muslim brothers in defense of the territorial integrity of Iran. The Islamic revolution which took place in Iran was the shining manifestation of the will of the Iranian people--expanding and assuming popular proportions from the start of the movement to victory--with the people's participation evident to all. In these days when ceremonies mark the victory of the Islamic revolution, I consider it my duty to offer prayers for those who were martyred in safeguarding the territorial integrity of Iran during the imposed war and to ask God Almighty to bestow endurance upon those they left behind.

The Armenian archdiocese council and the headquarters of the archdiocese of Tehran and the North responsible for 22 Bahman celebrations have sent telegrams of congratulations to imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the president of the country, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the prime minister and other public officials.

Moreover, the Armenian delegates for northern and southern Iran in the Majlis issued a message on the occasion of the start of the 7th anniversary of the victory of the glorious Islamic revolution under the leadership of imam Khomeyni who gave the gift of the Islamic Republic to the people of Iran.

After referring to the long struggle of the Muslim people of Iran under the leadership of their imam against self-serving and vassal rulers, the establishment of right and justice, which finally on 22 Bahman 1357 /11 February 1979/ lead to the retreat and exposure of the cruelty and injustice imposed on Armenians throughout history and their struggle in the victory and strengthening of the Islamic revolution, the messages states: The victory of the Islamic revolution is the product of the blood of tens of thousands of martyrs and is precious valuable, which is crystalized in the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The constitution endows the people of Iran, of whatever nationality or tribe, with equal rights irrespective of color, race or language. Since this law recognizes the independence, freedom and the rule of right and justice as the right of all the peoples of the world and extends protection to the oppressed against oppressors in any part of the world, therefore the Armenians of the world, after being subjected to cowardly blows, being driven from the land of their ancestors and scattered in the far corners of the world, expect protection and support of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The message of the Armenian Majlis delegates for northern and southern Iran ends by wishing long life for the grand leader of the revolution and victory for the people of Iran and other oppressed nations of world arrogance.

IRAN

EDITORIAL EXAMINES CONDITIONS FOR SOVIET PULLOUT FROM AFGHANISTAN

Tehran SOBH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 18 Feb 85 p 2

[Editorial: "Protecting Meek Afghanistan"]

[Text] Sometime ago, PRAVDA newspaper, the Soviet communist party organ, announced Moscow's conditions for pulling out of occupied Afghanistan, but the Soviet conditions this time, like before, were loquacious and seemed like slogans. PRAVDA newspaper, which reflects the views of the Kremlin, has stated that in the event the Soviets obtain international guarantees that anti-Afghanistan government armed groups will not be sent from neighboring countries and interference in the internal affairs of this country is stopped, they will recall their disciplinary forces from Afghanistan. In this account, not only have the Afghan Muslim combatants been called foreign hands by the Soviets and their goals, genuineness and ideology insulted, but also, neighboring countries including the Islamic Republic of Iran have been accused of interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and the Soviets have tried to pretend they are meek. Therefore, it is suitable to refer to the Soviet propaganda methods for justifying their and their Warsaw Pact allies aggression in the Islamic land of Afghanistan.

The Soviets claim that if the interference of neighboring countries concludes, they will end their military presence in Afghanistan. The aim of Moscow officials is to create a meek atmosphere for themselves and the Babrak Karmal regime in Afghanistan and in reality to conceal their inhuman atrocious actions like the massacre of defenseless people, the devastation of farms and rural areas, and the use of chemical bombs and napalm to kill those Muslim people who protest the invasion of their homeland by foreigners. But what is interesting and shows Soviet demagogy are two questions. First, the announcement of their withdrawal based on international guarantee, etc. Second, they have presented over 100,000 aggressor red army soldiers as disciplinary forces. In regard to the first question, we first have to ask the Kremlin officials and the organizers of the massacre of Muslim people of Afghanistan if for the actual aggression and invasion of this country they have acquired the consent of international organizations or the masses of people, or by taking advantage of the darkness of night and merely the consent of their protege rulers who bear the title of marxist leaders of Afghanistan, they harmoniously attacked this country and

- drove this nation to extreme devastation with their tanks. Meanwhile we must state to the Kremlin-dwellers that the coup d'etatist regimes never completely enjoy acceptance and justification in order to function or invite a group of aggressors to surpress their nation. Based on this reason, not only are the claims of the Soviet officials rejected, but their protege regime in Kabul does not have the legitimacy to establish policies. In regard to the second question, which is more interesting since the Soviets have tried to face the issue shrewdly and exonerate themselves. They call their forces disciplinary; if the Soviet invader forces and their Warsaw military pact allies according to the charter of that organization are merely disciplinary and are engaged for order and discipline, this claim would be acceptable. But in city, village, desert, land and sky they are killing the defenseless Muslim people and they don't have any purpose except to save the shaky government of Babrak Karmal. If the forces are supposed to be disciplinary why don't the Soviets send their city police force to Afghanistan instead of the red army which is at the service of expansionist and aggressive goals of the Soviets and their satellites and is considered as the military arm and suppressor of the eastern superpower.

In any case the Soviets have been able to acquire the consent of the U.S. and Pakistan in regard to Afghanistan and bring them to the negotiating table in Geneva. They only feel danger from the Islamic Republic of Iran and the opinion of the world's Muslims. Certainly feeling danger does not mean that the Islamic Republic of Iran will take military action against Afghanistan or the Soviet Union. But among Afghanistan's neighbors, only the Islamic Republic of Iran has not approved the revolutionary acts and agreements of the east and west in relation to this Muslim nation. Therefore they intend somehow to drag Islamic Iran to the negotiating table or keep us under pressure. Today our Muslim nation has a close sentimental relationship with the Muslim people of Afghanistan and supports their genuine and Islamic movement against the invaders and their protege. The support of the Islamic Republic of Iran can be seen through its provision of shelter to Afghan emigrees scattered throughout Iran. The presence of Muslim Afghan refugees in Islamic Iran occurs under conditions where Iran has not received any help (not even verbal) from the United Nations and has never asked for their aid. Therefore the Afghan emigrees have been treated like Iranian citizens and have enjoyed the available resources and never been under pressure, harmed, or harrassed.

Iranian support of the Islamic revolution and the oppressed Muslim people of Afghanistan not only faces Soviet and their satellite's opposition, but also faces the protest of the west and its allies, through side pressure and black-mail and acts like that mentioned in PRAVDA and from time to time propounded by the government officials of Afghanistan and U.S.S.R., all that is not enough to change our mind. It is the support from those oppressed Muslim people who have been attacked from every side and have been plundered severely. It is in this regard that the Islamic Republic of Iran condemns the so-called Geneva negotiations and demands only that the Muslim people of Afghanistan should express their views and decide the future of their country and not those like Babrak Karmal or Zaher Shah who depend on east and west to state their views. Therefore the Islamic Republic of Iran and its Muslim nation will continue its support for the oppressed nation of Afghanistan and as the nation's imam has pointed out repeatedly, condemn any aggression upon thir Islamic land. Now PRAVDA or others can publish whatever they want or blow it in their propaganda trumpets.

9815

CSO: 4640/477

IRAN

MESHKINI URGES MUSLIMS TO UNITE AGAINST ENEMY

Tehran SOBH-E AZADEGAN in Persian 10 Feb 85 pp 1-2

/Text/ Foreign guests who came to Iran to participate in the ceremonies marking the start of the 7th year of the victory of the glorious Islamic revolution on Friday /8 February/ proceeded to Qom where, after paying homage to the shrine of Hazrat-e M'asumeh, may God's peace be upon her, met with Ayatollah Meshkini, Friday prayer imam of Qom and head of the Assembly of Experts.

At this meeting, which was attended by 200 foreign dignitaries, researchers, scholars, university professors, leaders of Friday prayers and people from various walks of life from 65 countries, Ayatollah Meshkini after welcoming the participants in the 6th anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution referred in detail to the movement of the Muslim people of Iran under the direction of the imam of the nation against the corrupt and cruel system of monarchy, outlining some of the spiritual transformations that have taken place.

At one point he said: We destroyed the corrupt regime of the satan and totally eradicated vestiges of his corruptions from among our people to the point that today you cannot see a liquor store or an unveiled women. By God's grace, divine limitations are observed.

Speaking to the gathering, Ayatollah Meshkini said: Muslims have a lot of power and must get together and with unity of word stand up and fight the enemy of Islam.

He stressed that creation of an Islamic cultural-political affairs center in an Islamic country where Islamic scholars could gather to study problems and issues of the Islamic world, is necessary for reaching Islamic goals and that if these same Muslim countries would jointly set up a strong radio transmitter to be used in telling the truth and in exposing the face of the super powers and their lies and in presenting correct and reliable news of the Islamic world to the world followers of Islam and the Islamic Revolution, they will have achieved a noteworthy accomplishment.

Ayatollah Meshkini also referred to the need for the establishment of an Islamic bank based on Islamic principles which would serve as a depository for the assets of Muslims of the world that could be used for the development and welfare of Islamic countries, and went on to stress the need for setting up an association for coordinating the oil policies of Islamic countries in the face of plots by the super powers.

Speaking in the same vein, he said: It is essential to establish an international Islamic court composed of learned, virtuous and knowledgeable individuals where all Islamic problems of Muslims could be resolved and where ways of resolving disputes and clashes could be studied. Through a coordinated publication Muslims must convey to the world Islamic news and Muslim viewpoints.

Winding up his discourse, he stressed that Muslims of the world must be of one expression, refrain from division and separation and wake up from the reveries of ignorance so that they can carry out their divine mission in the manner prescribed by the great prophet of Islam.

Following the meeting, the guest participants in the ceremonies marking the Islamic Revolution's "10-Days of Dawn," gathered at the place of Friday prayer to participate in Friday prayers along with God-seeking residents of the city.

Subsequently, yesterday, the 9th day of Islamic revolution's auspicious "Dawn" event, participants in the 8th gathering of members of Islamic societies sponsored by the Ministry of Oil met in Qom with Ayatollah Meshkini, head of the Assembly of Experts.

During this meeting Ayatollah Meshkini while welcoming the participants, expressed his congratulations on the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution, and referred to the major role played by oil company workers in bringing down the Shah's regime, adding: One of the major factors contributing to the break up of the underpinnings of the devilish regime was the fact that at the height of the struggle of the Muslim people, you shut off the oil cocks, an action which constituted the biggest service to Islam and Muslims.

He referred to the role of Islamic societies in safeguarding the achievements of the Islamic revolution and added: The Islamic societies, which constitute the throbbing heart of the country, the reformers of the administrative process and the guides for institutions and organizations, are made up of the best individuals of the Islamic nation. They steer the nation on the right path and do not allow the wheels of the country's economic machine to veer to the left or right.

Speaking of the need of insuring Islamic morality in the work place and the role of oil company employees in the country's economy, Ayatollah Meshkini stressed the economic importance and value of oil and added: You brethren should safeguard this black gold which is in our hands, with dedicated service, because if we lose the oil we lose everything. The future of the country is indebted to your faithful services.

He went on to say: All our present day misfortunes are the result of the indifference of the former officials toward the cruelty and oppression of rulers of the satanic regime. Through your faithful service you should try to make a better future for this nation, because the whole world is looking at Iran and is amazed at the effort of this people to help those under the oppression of other countries and the elimination of cruelty in the world.

The chairman of the Assembly of Experts, while stressing an all-out support for the Islamic societies, expressed his concern over indifferent and unkind attitudes on the part of some responsible officials.

5854

CSO: 4640/467

IRAN

RATE OF INFLATION SAID TO HAVE DROPPED TO 12 PERCENT

Tehran BURS in Persian 20 Feb 85 pp 1-2

/Text/ In a radio-television report, Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, gave a speech in light of the recent message by his eminence imam Khomeyni, particularly as regards the executive branch, the activity of the private sector, and reciprocally the steps that the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has taken towards the people's participation in economic affairs.

At the beginning the prime minister drew the people's attention to the exceptional nature of the Islamic Republic system, which follows its own special pattern of thought and direction, and for this reason is opposed by other powers.

Pointing to the propaganda concerning the inflation and high prices in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mir Huseyn Musavi said: We do not intend to deny the existence of inflation in the country. However, comparison of the country's economic situation with that of other countries can show what our condition is, and whether or not we have had any progress or the nation and the government have brought about a miracle!

Pointing to the 11.9 percent rate of inflation from 21 November to 20 December and comparing it with the 30 percent rate of price rises and inflation during the year 1980-1981, the prime minister said: At the present time the rate of inflation is 11.9 percent, and this indicator is extremely important.

Eng Musavi noted that this inflation occurs under circumstances where Iran is involved in a war, there is a management crisis going on and other problems following the revolution and a thousand other impediments such as the impositions by the great powers whose forces are in the Indian Ocean and even several feet away from the Strait of Hormoz are staring us right in the face.

Then the prime minister presented a comparative figure on the 56 percent rate of inflation and price rises in Turkey, a country that was not involved in a war and is a member of NATO and profiting from Western assistance. It is a country which did not have a revolution and was not stricken by such difficulties, whose borders were not being threatened, and a country which carries on normal economic relations with other countries, and finally was a member of the Common Market.

Eng Musavi then mentioned the fact that certainly in third world countries the rate of inflation is around 50 to 60 percent, and pointing to Brazil he said: The rate of inflation in that country is 200 percent.

He added: In occupied Palestine, where most of the Israeli regime's budget is supplied by the United States and where we can clearly distinguish the continuous assistance from the world's Zionists to that regime, the inflation rate is 400 percent. In general, this situation is not even comparable with the situation in our country.

Brother Musavi, the prime minister, then noted that our country's accounting formulas and principles and its methods and norms in this area are the same as those of the world and there are no differences in this regard. He then denied the statement that the aforementioned inflation rate related to governmental goods and said: Within the framework of a model procedure, Bank-e Markazi even took into account the effect of probable low sales of several goods on the rate of inflation.

Eng Musavi then related the statements of Spanish officials during their recent meetings with our country's prime minister and said: They were proud of reducing their rate of inflation from 13 to 9 percent, while Spain is an industrial country having special exports and 40 million tourists visit that country annually. Iran has achieved the figure of 11.9 percent under wartime conditions and its special economic situation.

He added: The overall monetary and financial policies of the government and its correct position on organized intervention, supervision and control by the government and bureaus, distribution, capital investment, the credit system and the like have been effective during this period. Taken together all these things has led to the level of prices declining to this level.

The prime minister added: This is not something that could happen by accident or where some pseudo-prices have been controlled, or their rapid growth has been stopped and the growth in production is surpassing the growth in prices and we can observe significant reductions in them. This is what we want to draw the public's attention to; there are persons whose interests are incompatible with the reduction of prices and they naturally oppose it. Now

that in many sectors the level of the supply of goods is exceeding demand and through the government's supervision and the participation of all the trades, goods are being offered at low prices, a number of persons are objecting that there is a recession and that prices have come down and that there are no high profits.

He added: Yes, that is the way it is and must be. The day must even come when we will not have any inflation in our society. This benefits the public, the workers, the farmers, the oppressed, and the small craftsmen, although probably there are some people who, due to the conditions of war and the revolution, the lack of government control and the side-tracking of its policies, have become accustomed to enormous profits and are protesting "why does such-and-such a merchandise remain on our hands and there is little market demand?" We were pursuing this very thing, namely that the people could see there are goods on the market so that profiteers would not stock up on them in their homes. The prime minister, stressing that we are in the middle of the journey, expressed hope that this path would be pursued with the support of the vigilant people, the executive and the Majlis.

He added: We must expect that in our society some individuals will repeat the same words of foreign radio stations and will try to create dissatisfaction in the country because they have lost their interests, do not believe in Islam, have not had their souls and spirits transformed, and are heedless of the blood of the martyrs.

The prime minister added: It was five or six months ago that His Eminence the imam pointed to this area and at that time the government promised that it would carry out work necessary to stem the tide. He then pointed to a sample indicator in this regard, the private sector's share in imports, comprising about 20 percent. He added: Of course this percentage is changeable and depends on the level of foreign currency at our disposal.

The prime minister added: You know that we are under wartime conditions and we are compelled to adopt special policies. Despite the threats in the Persian Gulf and in the oil export field and the like that are taking place against us, we are moving in such a way as to balance our foreign income and outlays so that we will not be needing foreigners. This very matter is dependent on determining the level of intervention in imports by the private sector and other sectors.

9597

CSO: 4640/471

IRAN

INTERIOR MINISTER URGES PROPER CONDUCT WITH PEOPLE

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] KEYHAN political service--The 3-day seminar of the mayors of large cities was held yesterday in the Ministry of Interior. On the first day of this seminar, Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq Nuri, the minister of interior in a speech stated: "Since the work of the municipalities involves direct contact with people, those who do not have a strong nerve must resign. It is necessary to have proper conduct with the people since we all are indebted to them."

He also talked about the municipal regulations and the existing problems in connection with judicial power, the budget and self-reliance of the municipalities. The minister of interior referred to the people's role in the revolution and said: "From the beginning of the revolution until now the success of the Islamic Republic's government is indebted to two things: First, the presence of unique historical leadership during the absence of the Imam of the Age [the 12th Imam]. Second, according to the interpretation of the imam, our benefactor, is the presence of faithful people." He added: "The people tolerate pressure and the war; despite the evil propaganda of oppression, on 11 October [anniversary of the revolution] which neither did the imam state it was a religious duty, nor did the government officials issue an invitation. The council for the coordination of Islamic propaganda merely invited the people and we all saw what an immense multitude of people participated in the anniversary. If sometimes the people criticize it is not against the system since they showed their attachment on 11 October; however, if they criticize us, the administrators, this indicates the greatness of the nation and the seriousness of our task."

Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq Nuri in regard to the duties of the Majlis said: "If someone wants to know about order in a city and how disciplined the people are, they can feel it by the condition of the city. The municipality is the forehead of the city. The human being is confined to feel, see, and judge. If one notices dirt and disorder, one can judge how well the municipality and the system works. The municipality is the reputation of the system."

The minister of interior in regard to the regulations and judicial problems of the municipalities said: "Previously, executive and judicial matters

were carried out in the municipality. A file was studied in the municipality, the representative of judicial power was present, and the work was done speedily. But now a file must be referred to the second penal court and it is possible that it has to wait its turn. Some people are not aware of this fact and think the municipality is creating obstructions. At present, we have a judicial problem and the judicial power itself has a judicial problem too."

Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq Nuri referred to the budget and said: "At present the budget condition is not what we expected. War is the main thing and we cannot cut any of the war budget. If, because of the war, we have to allocate or give the current budget to the war, we will do so. If we have to choose between suspending the war and withdrawing and attending to administrative work, or suspending administrative work and continuing the war, we will certainly continue the war."

The minister of interior referred to self-sufficiency in the municipalities and said: "The view of the Islamic Majlis is that the self-sufficiency project be implemented, especially in the big cities. They have bound us to present projects for the municipalities' self-sufficiency in order that they don't get the budget from the government since this budget belongs to the deprived people, those deprived people that the imam and Ayatollah Montazeri recommend to us."

9815

CSO: 4640/429

IRAN

MONTAZERI: UNEMPLOYMENT, DISSATISFACTION, ENEMY CONSPIRACIES

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 Feb 85 p 18

[Text] Qom--The minister of education and training and his deputies, Hojaje Eslam Imam Jamarani, the director and imam's representative in the endowment and haj and pilgrimage organization, Ashtiani, the imam's representative in the gendarmerie, Jami, the Friday imam of Abadan, Dehdashti, one of the devout ulama of Abadan, and Islamic Majlis representatives of Shiraz, Kuhdasht, Shiravan, Lanjan, and Falavarjan met and talked separately with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri.

Based on this report, during the same week, on the occasion of the anniversary of the formation of the Islamic revolution committees, the deputy minister of interior for committees, responsible authorities, many of the martyrs' families of the revolution committees, a number of the martyr families of Araqi and Najafabad and a group of employees of the Islamic revolution general prosecutor's office met with the Grand Ayatollah. In this visit Grand Ayatollah Montazeri referred to the present sensitive conditions and considered the daily plots of the White House, Kremlin and other palaces of oppression and despotism against the Islamic Republic's system and revolution and said: "Today the world of blasphemy and despotism, with complete inability, has seriously taken into account the power of Islam and feels danger from the knowledge and perception of the nations around the world following the Islamic revolution of Iran. We must be aware that these world colonialistic powers, who have been slapped in the face by Islam, will not remain quiet and indifferent. Everyday in a different manner they create a plot for the annihilation of our nation, our revolution, and our Islamic rule. Most of their plots are aimed against Islam, the clergy, and revolutionary organs. He said: "The enemies of Islam use their efforts to destroy the organizations which have evolved from the revolution and have the most important role in protecting it, like the committees, revolutionary courts, etc. They use all their efforts to make these organs look evil in order for our nation to become gradually unhappy and discontent with the clergy and origins of Islam. Therefore the duty of our dear and devout brothers and proper authorities in these organs is very sensitive and difficult. Our brothers must be completely aware of their conduct with people and those who have contact for any reason with these organs, so that, God forbid, the enemies of Islam cannot try to gather evidence under the pretext of non-Islamic conduct and create dissatisfaction among the people." He stressed: "Among the enemy conspiracies and mischievousness in this stage of our revolution are the creation of a series of

disturbances, unemployment, and vagrancy in the government agencies and organizations in order to create dissatisfaction among the people, especially the deprived and oppressed people of society. The enemy, by agitating the people and making them dissatisfied and pessimistic about the basics of Islam and the clergy, drive them from the revolutionary scene. Our nation must confront these conspiracies with awareness and decisiveness."

In conclusion, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, in emphasizing the protection of the employee's prestige and honor said: "Unfortunately, most of us do not consider our dialogue as part of our conduct and it is highly possible that one world could destroy the prestige of a minister, Friday imam, Majlis deputy, or any effective person or organ among the people and create a situation that the employee would not be able to work with that organ any more. The Islamic prophet asks: 'Is there anything except the unruly tongue to throw people into the fire?'" He emphasized: "Today within the Islamic Republic government it is expected that on one hand, anyone in an office or organization behave in a way that protects the prestige of the revolution and its order, and on the other hand to consider the financial, life, job security and individual's prestige and to try to protect and respect them. For example, even if we decide to execute the laws of Islam in dealing with a criminal or a convicted person, we are not entitled to insult the guilty or use the slightest abusive language."

Based on the same report, a large group of beloved combatants of the revolutionary guards, military, mobilization organization, teachers of the revolutionary guards of the Hamzeh region who were in Qom along with several commanders and Hojjat ol-Eslam Rahmani, the responsible authority of the mobilization organization met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. In a detailed speech he reminded them about some of the points and at the conclusion he prayed for the final victory of the Islamic combatants and for the long life of the people's imam.

9815

CSO: 4640/429

IRAN

EDUCATION OFFICIALS SUGGEST BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION OF APPLICANTS

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 20 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] KEYHAN Cultural Service--The inquiry method by officials for checking the beliefs and character of applicants for university entrance examinations is insufficient and therefore background investigations must be performed. Using past experience it is necessary for the authorities to pay more attention to this matter.

The members of the offices studying the complaints of applicants for university entrance examinations including the central committee for selection of the applicants of the Ministry of Higher Education and Culture, the revision council, the verification and study office, and the headquarters for enforcement of the imam's commands, presented in an interview their activities during the past few months and expressed their views in regard to the background investigations of students and applicants for university entrance examinations.

First, the representative of the verification and study office of the Ministry of Higher Education and Culture presented operational statistics for the current year and said: "3,200 applicants for the second phase of the 1984 entrance examinations failed the investigation. After the announcement of the results of the entrance examination, these applicants sent us protest letters along with the necessary documents. Three thousand eighteen cases have been studied again and up to now 587 cases have been approved with leniency and the applicants thus notified. However, 1,050 cases have been rejected and confirmed as disqualified. Nearly 1,000 files needed to be studied again and they have been referred for renewed investigation. Of the total protests, around 200 files still remain and we hope that they will be studied as soon as possible." In regard to the protests of those who failed the 1982 and 1983 entrance examinations he stated: "All those files have been studied."

Then, a member of the central selection board in regard to the selection and background investigation method said: "The selection rules are presented to us by the Supreme Judicial Council and Supreme Selection Council. In these background investigations, the different conditions of the applicant from the political atmosphere of his region to family situation are all taken into consideration. For example, a Kurdish youth whose village has

been in the hands of the counterrevolutionaries but who still remains independent will receive some leniency compared to an Esfahani candidate. Or, a candidate who has lost his parents for some reason and has suffered mentally or has been raised by an illiterate family will receive special consideration."

He also added: "By using the existing methods and considering the time frame, we have made good progress but we believe that in order to achieve the desired results with least wastage, we need to find a better framework and experiment with different methods. Last year we used a new method--the inquiry method from education and training channels--but this method was not applicable to all the applicants. Some graduated a long time ago and there was no precise information about them from the school. In any case, since the information is limited from official sources and what is available is only political, it is necessary to use background investigations and this method has had useful results up to now."

Then the representative of the supreme selection council in response to the question: What changes will occur in the selection method due to the renewed study of the applicants' complaints? said: "Those who were rejected from the beginning from an investigative point of view, and who protested and later received acceptance announcements from this committee does not mean that their protests were justified and that the committee erred; the announcements indicate that the system is aware and the applicant must also reform himself. Ninety-nine percent of the acceptance is based on leniency." He added: "Some people have raised objections regarding the selection procedure which need answering here. Among those objections are that the selection procedure causes dissatisfaction, the investigation filter is wrong, causes opposition and although basically an investigation is for the clearance of applicants, the method of investigation is contrary to that. I must say that we are in a situation where the university has limited capacity and there are too many applicants. On the other hand, due to the existence of the remaining corrupt elements of the previous regime and the losses caused by the war and revolution, it is essential for the best individuals to enter the university. Selection helps prevent obstinate applicants from entering the university. Being Muslim is not the question since minorities are also accepted. Although under present conditions priority is given to the best and most hezbollahi people, the door is not closed for others. The fact that the university is for constructive purposes is a good and rational remark but this applies under normal conditions and not in a society where due to its past, corruption still exists. Not in a country which has been under the influence of corruption for 50 years or in a society where after the revolution, there has been a race by mini-groups and it has been standing still for some time.

"Under these conditions, if we open the university doors to everyone, it is possible that the competent person will be excluded. To open the university doors to the public is just and when the political and educational atmosphere is suitable maybe we will be able to sit next to a materialist in a classroom and have a debate. In the case when they say that the investigation is like accusing individuals, it must be mentioned that it is said that when there is corruption, if we seek perfect or unadulterated honesty, it is nothing but gullibility. Therefore to prevent subsequent damage we must use background investigations."

Our reporter referred to the statement of the minister of higher education and culture in regard to the manner of selection which was announced at the beginning of the current week and asked about the investigation method for the coming year's entrance examination. One of the participants in the discussion stated: "Certainly no official announcement has been made by the Supreme Judicial Council or the Supreme Educational Revolution Council in this regard. Although it has been discussed, what is important from the committee's viewpoint and must be pointed out here is that inquiries from official and reliable sources cannot be the basis because in the first place, information from these sources is limited and second, whatever information exists, is in connection to an individual's political background and also is limited from a chronological point of view. Of the 70,000 inquiries made by this committee to official and reliable sources last year, we only received around 2,000 replies. Therefore, the inquiry method is necessary but not enough and we must also use the background investigation procedure. We must start planning while we have the opportunity and the committee must pay attention to this matter and pursue it.

"Certainly it is necessary to point out that with the approval of the proper authorities, only the method of inquiry will be used in the coming year, but the execution of this method depends on the new members of this committee since we execute the existing method of background investigation and do not believe that it is beneficial or constructive to use some other method.

"Meanwhile it must be reiterated that contrary to rumors, the background investigation is not merely from neighbors and tradesmen. Ninety percent of applicants will not be investigated through local channels, only in special cases we have been obliged to use local investigations merely for those individuals when no other sources of information have been available. It is worth mentioning that the results of background investigations are not based on the recommendation of one person in the investigation group alone; one person completes the application and refers the acquired information to the central office and the decision is made in those centers. Also among the new students, only the ones who had been chosen through the method of inquiry were problem students. However, we still believe that the background investigation procedure could be improved through the use of past experiences."

9815

CSO: 4640/437

IRAN

JOINT INVESTMENT IN TEXTILE WITH PAKISTAN UNDER STUDY

Tehran BURS in Persian 21 Feb 85 pp 1-2

/Text/ A Pakistani economic delegation comprised of industrial and commercial experts from that country arrived in Tehran Tuesday night for discussions concerning the share of Iranian capital investment in textile industry projects in Pakistan. Zafar Aqbal, chief of Pakistan's national Financial and Expansion Affairs Organization and the leader of the ten-member delegation of Pakistani experts, spoke to IRNA correspondents about the goals of the delegation's visit and said: In 1975 an agreement between Iran and Pakistan was signed to build two textile producing projects in Pakistan's Baluchistan. These projects are not performing satisfactorily from the production and financial viewpoint. Therefore this delegation will pursue the framework of desirable productivity in these two projects, in which a total of more than 70 million dollars has been invested by the two countries. Similarly, Eng Motfi Hashemi, deputy minister of heavy industries and chief of the expansion and renovation organization, told IRNA's economic correspondent: In 1975 a contract to build two textile producing projects around Kubteh and Karachi in Pakistan's Baluchistan Province was signed by Iran and Pakistan within the framework of cooperations of the RCD regional cooperation treaty. In 1978 and 1979 the projects entered the stage of operation and production. Therefore, this delegation will attempt to examine the lack of profitability and the losses arising from the continued activity of these two production projects in which Iran has invested 49 percent of the capital.

Eng Hashemi continued by saying: This delegation was planned during the visit to Pakistan by Dr Namazi, minister of economic and financial affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which took place some time ago. The aforementioned projects were implemented during the time of the former regime in Pakistan's Baluchistan region mainly for political reasons.

It is necessary to note that the Iranian government in the years prior to the victory of the Islamic revolution made various capital investments in Pakistan, West Germany, Brazil, Egypt and several

other countries within the framework of various cooperations including the RCD treaty, etc. In the years after the victory of the Islamic revolution measures are being taken to investigate their productivity and profitability. Kantu Edris, Pakistan's acting minister of industrial production, is accompanying the ten-member delegation of Pakistani experts. The members of the delegation will reside in the Islamic Republic of Iran for approximately one week and during this period will discuss and examine the two textile production projects with authorities and various Iranian ministries.

9957

CSO: 4640/469

IRAN

MANY RURAL ROADS, IRRIGATION, ELECTRIFICATION PROJECTS COMPLETED

Tehran BURS in Persian 13 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Following the victory of the Islamic revolution, operations to build 5,300 kilometers of rural roads, 986 water-transport projects and 582 electrification projects were completed in Khorasan villages by the province's crusaders.

According to IRNA's report, the Khorasan Reconstruction Crusade's executive official and member of the Central Council described the activities of this organ, and compared them with the pre-revolutionary period and said: During the past regime rural road construction amounted to nothing while during the 6 years following the victory of the revolution Khorasan's crusade has succeeded in completing 5,363 kilometers of rural road. In the same area there were 376 water-transport projects in the past while Khorasan's crusade has completed 986 water-transport projects on its own. He also said that 582 electrification projects have been completed while in the years before the revolution there were only 191 projects.

He pointed to the construction of 50 diversionary and storage dams to provide water for agriculture and said: In addition to these dams, during the period of its activity the crusade has been able to dredge and renovate 3,934 qanats throughout the province. This type of activity was not carried out at all during the past regime.

9597

CSO: 4640/468

IRAN

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES EXEMPT FROM TAXES FOR 10 YEARS

Tehran BURS in Persian 20 Feb 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Simultaneously with the implementation of the new tax law, three-person commissions entitled as resolving commissions will be formed throughout the country. With the cooperation of the esteemed Friday prayer leaders, one member of these commissions will be elected from among the guilds and merchants to align taxation of businessmen and merchants with the real level of their income and to attain complete fairness.

During a trip to the Chahar Mahall va Bakhtiar Province, Mostafa Mahzab, administrative and financial deputy of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, was interviewed by IRNA's correspondent. While stating these facts he also explained the special characteristics of the new tax accounting laws and the desirable economic effects of these laws on taxation fairness and added: In light of the fact that agriculture has become the axis of expansion, farmers will enjoy a 10-year exemption from taxes as outlined in the plans of the new tax law so that an important step will be taken towards self-sufficiency and increased production of agricultural produce. Concerning the transformation and basic changes in the new accounting law compared with the previous accounting law, Brother Mahzab said: Since the issue of purchasing and transactions in general is an important one for all the ministries, organizations and government institutions, there are plans outlined in the new accounting law which foresee greater reliance on officials in administrative transactions with a view to preventing red tape. To this end restrictive and superfluous items in the previous law, such as price inquiry, which itself led to an increase of false price increases, have been eliminated.

In conclusion, he added: Thus the implementation of the new accounting law and the removal of price inquiry will eliminate collusion and the preparation of false invoices that occurred in the past.

9597

CSO: 4640/468

IRAN

LARGE INDUSTRIAL PLANTS PRODUCTION REPORTEDLY UP 24 PERCENT IN 1983

Tehran BURS in Persian 18 Feb 85 pp 1-2

/Text/ The twenty-fourth session of the annual general meeting of Bank-e Markazi of the Islamic Republic of Iran was held at the bank and chaired by Dr Hosseyn Namazi, the minister of economic and financial affairs. Participating were Dr Banki, minister of state and chief of the Plan and Budget Organization, Dr Nurbakhsh, director general of Bank-e Markazi, the supervisory board, the supervisory board for currency deposits, and members of the Money and Credit Council. The session was held to examine the balance sheet of Bank-e Markazi of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the year 1362 /March 1983-March 1984/. At the beginning of the session the director general of Bank-e Markazi gave a summary report of the country's economic events during the year March 1983-March 1984. The report said that during the year March 1983-March 1984, despite the continuation of the imposed war and the problems arising from it, the general level of economic activities grew and that this growth was relatively more rapid in the industrial and construction sectors. Activity in the petroleum sector also preserved the relatively high level of the previous year, but in the agricultural sector fundamental problems still continued and the production of many major items dropped drastically. During this year despite an increase in the government's budget deficit, the primary expansionary effects of the government sector's operations decreased and brought about a reduction in the growth rate of cash flow in the private sector. On the other hand, with the increase in the country's foreign currency resources, the import of goods showed an extraordinary growth and, accompanied by an increase in industrial production, increased the overall supply. On the whole, during the year that is the subject of this report, there was a limited reduction of the sharp increase in prices and the growth rate indicators of the private of goods and consumer services and the wholesale price indicators were less than those of the previous year.

In continuation of the report's summary of the country's economic events during the year 1983-1984, it was stated that one of the most important of the country's economic events during that year was the final approval of the interest-free banking operations law, according to which a new banking system has been founded. If this system succeeds, it can be an effective means of attaining the Islamic society's economic goals.

It was also stated that during the year 1983-1984 the agricultural sector, despite the stress given to its importance and pivotal role in the country's future economic expansion, was the only major sector which was confronted by a relatively severe recession. During this year the production of most basic agricultural goods showed a noticeable decrease. The reduction of the production of major agricultural crops during the year 1983-1984 occurred under conditions in which the government made vast efforts to implement agricultural plans and expand water sources. In this connection, in light of the priority of the agricultural sector and the necessity of expanding water sources, an important share of the government's expenditures were allocated to carry out capital investment in development plans in this area. The total of this kind of expenditure to expand agriculture and water resources increased 41 percent in relation to the figure for the previous year, reaching about 139 billion rials. According to this report, during the year 1983-1984, due to the elimination of some problems and the allocation of notable sums of foreign currency reserves to import raw materials, spare parts and machinery, the industrial sector expanded quite rapidly. Thus the indicator for large industrial factory output went from 14.3 percent in 1982-1983 to 24.3 percent during 1983-1984.

Another section of the report said that during the year 1983-1984 activities in the petroleum sector continued at the level of the previous year and the country's crude oil production averaged about 2.7 million barrels a day, which is slightly more than 0.6 percent above the production level for the previous year.

However, the export of the country's petroleum, both crude oil and other petroleum by-products, had a relatively rapid growth, and with a 3.3 percent increase reached an average of 2.1 million barrels a day. On this basis the government's income from petroleum exports amounted to 1,779.4 billion rials. This was accompanied by 789.6 billion rials from taxes and 198.5 billion rials from other income sources. The grand total of the government's income increased 10.6 percent over that of the previous year.

9597

CSO: 4640/470

IRAN

INDUSTRY MINISTER FAVORS TRADE EXPANSION WITH JAPAN

Tehran BURS in Persian 27 Feb 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Iran and Japan have vast areas for economic and technological cooperation and Japan can play a major role in trade relations with Iran.

Mr Behzad Nabavi, the minister of heavy industries, who went to Tokyo last week on an official five-day visit, announced the above statement in a press conference, described his meetings with the political and economic leaders of Japan as successful, and said: The aim of the Iranian delegation in this visit was to study the expansion of relations between the two countries and stabilize and safeguard the development of these relations. The minister of heavy industries pointed out that Japan can easily play a major role in economic relations with Iran and said: Iran's policy since the revolution has been based on transferring industrial technology and purchasing investment goods and mediate machinery. He mentioned the industries for machine manufacturing, metal production, chemical production and car manufacturing as among the areas of industrial cooperation between Japan and Iran. Continuing this interview, Mr Nabavi stressed: Iran strongly supports shipping security in all international waters, particularly in the Persian Gulf, and considers attacks on the ships in the Persian Gulf region a result of the adventurist and belligerent policies of the Iraq regime. Expressing his sorrow over the killing of a Japanese ship worker on a Kuwaiti ship in the Persian Gulf, he said: The position of the Islamic Republic of Iran is based on preserving shipping security in international waters for all countries. Mr Nabavi emphasized: Iran by no means seeks chaos and the attacking of ships in the Persian Gulf. As a result, it will expend all its efforts to protect the security of this area. He supported Iran's position in the war and added: The Islamic Republic of Iran is defending itself and its existence in an imposed war, even though Iran feels more than any other country that it needs peace for construction. Concerning the petrochemical project of Iran and Japan in the Port of Imam Khomeyni, the minister of heavy industries said that he has had talks in this area with the Japanese officials and both sides are trying to continue work on this project.

IRAN

TRADE WITH POLAND TO EXPAND

Tehran BURS in Persian 27 Feb 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Relations between Poland and Iran have always been very close, since 500 years ago, and their friendship has been based on mutual respect, appropriate understanding of their needs and a spirit of mutual cooperation. The economic relations between Iran and Poland at present have become like a tradition, a history which begins in the 19th century, when a large group of Polish people came for crude oil. Up to World War II, Polish experts participated in building railroads, roads, industrial factories and textile industries in Iran.

After World War II, cooperation between Poland and Iran entered new a dimension, and according to the situation with regard to economic and international relations, both countries tried to fundamentally improve and develop economic relations. The first sugar production factory was built by Poland in Fariman in 1960. From that year, the sale of accompanying industrial factories to Iran began. So far, eight food factories, four refrigerated warehouses for the food industries, one textile factory, and various shops or stores for the sale of Polish tools and equipment are being created in Iran. The vast revolutionary and production changes in the Islamic Republic of Iran have created new possibilities for development in various areas based on the preservation and strengthening of useful bilateral cooperation, mutual respect, equal partnerships and non-interference in the internal affairs of the other.

With the studies carried out on the primary economic needs of Iran and considering Poland's economic capability and potential, Poland is prepared to expand industrial and economic cooperation with Iran both in terms of time and volume, especially in areas in which Poland has reached the highest international standards in terms of quality and experience.

The Polish government sources and organizations are interested in joint cooperation in other areas, such as industries, agriculture and mines.

[They are interested in] the elimination of problems and shortcomings in fisheries by delivering fishing vessels to one another, training Iranian experts in fish hatcheries and the fishing industry, cooperation in carrying out projects such as sugar production factories, the elimination of refrigerated warehouse shortages, providing flour mills, offering handicraft industries for agricultural services and the building of docks and ship-building factories.

[They are interested in] the necessary cooperation in the area of production and the introduction of very advanced and modernized tools and machinery in accordance with the latest models for working in mines as well as the modernization of turneries and metal smelters.

[They are interested in] cooperation in the area of developing railroads and the production and offering of the necessary machinery for the manufacture of china and building railroads.

[They are interested in] the designing and creation of numerous chemical and petrochemical factories.

[They are interested in] the delivery of tools and equipment for high voltage power plants and stations.

[They are interested in] consultation in numerous industrial, agricultural, shipping, fishing, housing manufacturing, urban development, and other areas. Poland is also interested in expanding its volume of exports to Iran in the areas of tools and machinery, spare technical equipment, construction steel, and metals other than iron, cords, cables, lumber, paper production, chemicals and various consumer goods.

Increased exports from Poland to the Islamic Republic of Iran will enable Poland to purchase more goods from Iran on the basis of trade agreements.

With the full agreement and satisfaction of both countries, the expansion of economic relations between Poland and Iran will increase and strengthen every day. Beneficial and very successful agreements, negotiations between high level officials of both countries, the active participation of Iranian experts in the Paznan international exhibition in Poland as well as the participation of Polish commercial organizations in the Tehran international exhibition confirm the expansion of the economic relations between Poland and Iran.

10,000

CSO: 4640/499

IRAN

VIEWS ON SALE OF FACTORY STOCKS TO WORKERS

Tehran BURS in Persian 26 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Government involvement in the national industries after the victory of the revolution was an unavoidable necessity, because at that time, many of the managers and stockholders left the companies and political groups had begun to take charge of industrial units. This issue forced the government to take over the administration of many of the units, with the employment of new individuals as managers appointed by the government. On the other hand, the purge of industrial ownership in regards to a number of stockholders who had acquired property, wealth and factories through illegal means and affiliation with the previous regime required the government to take over these units as well.

With the ratification of the Constitution and the passage of time, the operation of the government, cooperative and private sectors was clarified and political calm came to the industrial units.

Now that the country is advancing towards political and economic stability, the government has decided on the very appropriate step of returning to its legal positions and boundaries of work, relieving itself of the meddlesome affairs.

This movement began some time ago in various sectors, including the Foundation for the Oppressed, and truly is a correct and praiseworthy move. In this course, several points are significant and worthy of note.

First, the standard for this adjustment of position must be the Constitution. In other words, the domain of government work must be limited in industries to what the Constitution has determined and, as the delicate expression goes, the government should not be involved in menial jobs.

Secondly, in this transfer social justice, economic realities and historical experience must be taken into consideration.

More simply, in transferring the stocks from the government, four essential questions are raised:

1. What stocks are being transferred?
2. To whom are they being transferred?
3. At what price are they being transferred?
4. Through what means?

In order to determine what stocks are transferred, it is proposed that, as was mentioned, a committee be appointed to first examine the government shares in the units. The best standard for providing a solution in this regard is the Constitution. Obviously, this can be done in two phases, short-term and long-term. In the short-term plan, the stocks of profit-yielding units will be sold. In the second phase, with an overall reconstruction and purge of the management and financial, technical and economic structure of units with losses, they must be offered for sale. Obviously, this task requires planning, patience, forbearance and care.

The second issue is, to whom are they being transferred? As the prime minister discussed in his report to the Iranian nation, no one is more interested than the employees of the production units. Then, it must be sold to the public in general in such a way that there is no sign of autocracy or implementation of personal objectives. In other words, a ceiling can be set in this transfer. For example, we can say that in this kind of unit, no one may hold more than 10 percent of the shares, so that he will be able to make use of benefits which have been anticipated in the direct tax law and the market of stocks and valuable papers.

Another very precise point must be taken into consideration in regards to transfers. The tyrant's so-called colorless (white) revolutionary Article 13 was an artificial and hollow action and slogan to transfer stocks to the working class and the public. The governing regime first began its work with the slogan and once again placed the burden on the government. This burden was later imposed on the financial system of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In fact, they wanted to carry out social justice with this deceptive slogan by printing loan papers and placing them relatively free of charge at the disposal of workers. In short, what we recommend to the government is that, given the particular economic situation in the country, no new financial burden must be added to the already heavy burden of the government.

They printed the loan papers, gave loans to the workers and, in short, said that the principles and interests transferred to the

workers must be secured through the profits of the unit. This was a political propaganda ploy which does not conform to our Islamic culture and our problems.

The stocks which are at the disposal of the government belong to 40 million Iranians, which have, in fact, been registered in the name of all the classes of people.

Another issue which is significant in this connection is that having a small capital or savings in stocks requires an indication of special cultural and economic participation, which is recognized in the West, but is unknown here. In other words, in the past [incomplete]

10,000

CSO: 4640/500

IRAN

INTERIOR MINISTER URGES ASSISTING PEOPLE

Tehran BURS in Persian 26 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Esfahan, reporter and supervisor of BURS.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq-Nuri, minister of the interior, accompanied by the finance deputy of this ministry, arrived in Esfahan and was welcomed at the city airport by the deputies and a group of military, law enforcement and other officials of the province.

He and his companions then paid their respects to the martyrs of the Islamic revolution and the imposed war of this city in Golestan-e Shohada Cemetery by reciting prayers. Mr Nateq-Nuri, the minister of the interior, accompanied by the financial deputy of this ministry, attended a session held in the morning with the deputies, consultants and directors of the Esfahan Offices of Governors General, the governors and the mayors of this province in the martyr Mo'tamedi prayer room at the Office of the Governor General of Esfahan and engaged in investigating the various problems of the provincial districts.

According to our reporter, in this session, the technical and developmental deputy of the Office of the Governor General and the governor of Esfahan spoke on behalf of those present about the developmental and emergency budgets, the problems of the executive organizations, the current budget and the work and operation of the Governors' and Lieutenant Governors' Offices. Then Mr Nateq-Nuri referred to the active and expansive presence of our martyr-nurturing people in the ceremonies of the sixth anniversary of the victory of the magnificent Islamic revolution of Iran and said:

Although the imam of the nation and other authorities had not recommended that the people participate in these ceremonies, Azadi Square and the surrounding streets witnessed the unprecedented presence of our ever-on-the-scene people. This presence on the scene eliminated the doubts created by both the enemies of Islam and some others concerning the people being tired of the revolution. But it seems that we must realize that

the people are not quite satisfied with the officials. It shows that the ties of the people with the Islamic revolution of Iran continue to be strong and steadfast and such pressures and shortcomings have not separated the people from the regime and the imam of the nation. But we officials have disappointed them with our incompetence and lack of programs. He continued: Serving and working for such revered and self-sacrificing people is a blessing and we must value them as much as possible. Then, in connection with the actions of the officials towards the people, especially with the beloved villagers, and rendering more services, he gave some reminders. And, referring to the moral issues of the society, the minister of the interior said: Cultural issues, which are the main foundation of the Islamic revolution, have not been valued as they should be. You must know that the enemies of Islam and the hypocrites do not see any other way to implement their sinister plans. Through spreading prostitution and corruption they want to destroy the society and try to empty our revolution of its Islamic content. In conclusion, Mr Nateq-Nuri spoke about the current problems of the Governor's Offices and City Halls.

10,000

CSO: 4640/500

IRAN

MAJLIS APPROVES SALE OF ORGANIZATIONAL, INCOMPLETE HOUSES

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 14 Mar 85 p 16

[Excerpts] Below, you read the detailed report on the open session.

Then Note 37 was discussed and read as follows:

Note 37. The government is granted permission to pre-sell all or part of the transportation papers abroad concerning the sale of petroleum (Iranian National Oil Company) during the period 21 January-19 February 1986 to the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran before the due date of the amount of the above-mentioned documents and include the currency gained from the sale of this transaction in the general revenue account of the country for the period 21 March 1985-20 March 1986.

There were no suggestions regarding this note, and it was ratified by the Majlis.

Sale of Organizational Houses

Then Note 38 was discussed and read as follows:

Note 38. A. Executive organizations may sell the incomplete or operational organizational residential units which are not necessary for the organization in Tehran and eligible provincial capitals and large cities as follows, depositing the amounts collected in the general revenue account of the country.

1. Incomplete units [will be sold] to the universities and teacher training centers for student dormitories, and if not appropriate for dormitories, to employees of government universities, and if not needed, to the private sector.

2. Units in operation [will be sold] to their employees and those of the university and teacher training centers for student dormitories, and if inappropriate for dormitories, to the

employees of other government organizations, and if not needed, to the private sector.

B. Permission is granted for a maximum of 40 percent of the funds which are collected in the implementation of Paragraph A of this Note and included in the general revenues to be put at the disposal of the concerned executive organizations from the funds in category 503061 of Section 4 of this law for use in completing the incomplete organizational houses on the basis of agreements which will be exchanged with the Ministry of Plan and Budget within a maximum period of three months from the date of the ratification of this law and to be approved by the Cabinet. In the above-mentioned bylaws, a special committee for identifying salable houses will be anticipated.

E. The government is responsible for reporting on the implementation of this Note biannually to the Majlis committees on housing and urban development and plan and budget.

The committee on housing and urban development offered an amendment concerning Note 38. Dr Sheybani and Movahhedi-Savoji spoke in opposition and in support of this proposal and the committee and the government representative provided explanations.

Then, the proposal of the committee on housing and urban development was put to a vote and ratified as follows.

Note 38. A. Executive organizations may sell or pre-sell the incomplete or operational organizational residential units in Tehran and eligible provincial capitals and large cities which are not necessary for organizational use and deposit the revenues gained in an account in the name of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development for the program to complete and build organizational houses at the general treasury.

B. Permission is granted for 50 percent of the revenues in Paragraph A to be placed at the disposal of the concerned executive organizations through a request for funds signed jointly by the accountant and the minister of housing and urban development for the completion of incomplete organizational houses or the building of new organizational houses in the deprived areas of the country.

C. The building of new organizational houses must take place under a general agreement with the Ministry of Plan and Budget to create a new financial commitment for the government.

D. The price of the sale of the above-mentioned units will be based on the fair price by experts to include foundational and other costs.

E. The complementary bylaws of this note will be prepared within a maximum period of three months from the date of the ratification of this law by the Ministries of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Affairs and Finance, and Plan and Budget and will be approved by the Cabinet. In the above-mentioned bylaws, the priorities for various purchases, whether governmental or private, must be established and a special committee for identifying salable houses must be anticipated.

F. The government is responsible for reporting the situation of the implementation of this Note once every four months to the Majlis committees on housing and urban development and plan and budget.

Sale of Incomplete Buildings

Then, Note 39 was discussed and read as follows:

Note 39. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is responsible:

A. For offering for sale completed or incomplete, low-cost residential units as they are and for depositing the funds obtained in the general revenues account.

B. From the funds allocated in Category 503061 of Section 4 of this law, up to the amount deposited in the treasury account subject to Paragraph A, in accordance with the agreements on the operational details which will be exchanged with the Ministry of Plan and Budget, it must take steps to complete buildings which cannot be sold in their incomplete form, sell them upon completion, and deposit the funds in the general account of the country.

C. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is permitted to change houses that have been built in deprived areas and cannot be sold even after completion into organizational houses in accordance with the complementary bylaws of this note.

D. The complementary bylaws of this note will be prepared by the Ministries of Housing and Urban Development, Plan and Budget, and Economic Affairs and Finance and will be approved by the Cabinet.

Several representatives suggested that the phrase, the priority of sale of the residential units subject to this note to teachers and employees of the Ministry of education, be inserted in this note.

Then the spokesman of the committee on housing and urban development offered the proposal by this committee for an amendment to Note 39 and said: The proposals regarding this note

are similar to those for Note 38. First is that the account must be separate, and another is that if these houses are not sold after being announced once in a public newspaper, they should be changed into organizational houses. Another issue concerns incomplete houses, that the Ministry of Housing can complete them with 50 percent of the funds from the sale of these houses.

Opponents and supporters of this proposal spoke and the representative of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development provided explanations.

Then the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development proposal concerning Note 39 was put to a vote and ratified as follows:

Note 39. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is responsible:

A. For selling or pre-selling the low-cost, completed or incomplete residential units in accordance with the case and depositing to the general treasury the revenues obtained in an account in the name of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development for the program to complete low-cost housing.

B. Permission is granted to receive from the treasury the amount of 50 percent of the revenues in Paragraph A through a request for the funds signed jointly by the accountant and the minister of housing and urban development and to take steps to complete the low-cost incomplete houses.

C. The list of incomplete low-cost houses must be exchanged in agreement with the Ministry of Plan and Budget.

D. In areas where there are no buyers for the low-cost houses subject to this note after one official announcement and the expiration of the deadline, those houses will be changed to organizational houses.

E. The implementary bylaws of this note will be prepared by the Ministries of Housing and Urban Development, Plan and Budget, and Economic Affairs and Finance and approved by the Cabinet.

Use of Current and Developmental Funds

Then Note 40 was discussed and read as follows:

Note 40. The use of current and developmental funds which in some way have been exempted from the general accounting law and other general government regulations or bylaws of government transactions and which have become subject to special regulations (except for expenditures concerning Note 9 and Paragraph A of Note 47 of this law) will be exclusively subject to the single

article and the notes of this law, Note 61 of the budget law for the period 21 March 1981-20 March 1982, and the following rules and regulations.

A. The exchange of agreements with the Plan and Budget Organization is obligatory and the executive organizations are responsible for observing the content of the above-mentioned agreements.

B. The responsibility for identifying, committing, verifying and issuing vouchers concerning the executive organizations and revolutionary institutions belongs to the minister or the highest authority of the concerned executive organization or officials authorized by them accordingly.

C. The necessary funds for carrying out expenditures from funds subject to this note will be deposited by the treasury in the bank account of the concerned organization which has been or will be opened in Tehran by the treasury in the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran, or in provincial cities, in one of the branches of the Iran Melli Bank, upon the request for funds by the accountant, in organizations which have accountants, and the request of the financial official of the organization which has been or will be introduced to the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, for organizations which lack an accountant. The above-mentioned accounts can be used with at least two authorized signatures, one of which must be that of the accountant or financial affairs official, as the case may be.

D. The ceiling and the procedure for carrying out transactions, observing the feasibility and interest of the government, are as follows:

1. Transactions up to the amount of 1 million rials, under the responsibility of the purchasing agent.

2. Transactions from 1,000,001 rials to 5 million rials, with the endorsement of the purchasing agent or the provisional unit agent, as the case may be, and the approval of the highest executive official or his authorized representative.

E. The amount of prepayment will not exceed 40 percent and the revolving funds and completion assurance deposit as well as the kind and amount of collateral, which must be collected vis-a-vis the prepayment or completion assurance, will be determined with the responsibility on the highest authority of the executive organization or his authorized representative.

F. All the expenditures spent must be backed by the following documents.

1. Concerning domestic purchases, the purchasing voucher or the records of the purchase with adherence to the contents of Paragraph D of Note 31 of this law, the receipt from the warehouse, or the records of the delivery of goods.

2. In regards to foreign purchases, the announcement of the bank or the bill of sale, delivery documents of the goods from customs, the receipt from the warehouse, or the record of the delivery of goods.

3. Concerning the payment of salaries, wages, benefits and any other kind of personnel payment, the certificate of completion of work by authorized officials, and the signature of the recipient of the funds or the bank certificate verifying the deposit of funds to the proper bank account.

4. In using the funds subject to Note 14 and Note 19 as well as Paragraph D of Note 7 and Category 114006 of Section 4 of this law in connection with expenditures abroad, the signature of the minister or the highest official of the concerned executive organization and the signature of the official in charge of financial affairs of that organization will be included in the final expenditures.

5. Concerning projects that are conferred on contractors, the agreement and verification of the delivery of goods or the completion of services subject to the contract, by the highest authority of the executive organization or his authorized representative.

G. The executive organizations are responsible for keeping the accounts of such funds separate from and independent of their other accounts and for presenting them at times which will be determined and announced by the national accounting court to that court and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance.

The procedures for regulating and keeping the accounts subject to this note in regards to the revolutionary institutions will be determined and announced by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance.

H. Property purchased with the funds subject to this note are considered government property.

I. The definition of amendments used in this note will follow the definitions in the related laws and regulations.

Hashemza'i proposed the reduction of transactions in this note of up to 1 million rials to 100,000 rials and transactions of 100,000 to 100,001 rials [as published].

Dr Sheybani and Jahangiri spoke in support and opposition of this note and the government representative provided explanations. This proposal was put to a vote; it was not ratified, but rejected.

10,000

CSO: 4640/498

IRAN

ENDOWMENT PROPERTY DEEDS VOIDED

Tehran BURS in Persian 14 Feb 85 p 8

[Text] Following the command of the nation's imam to bequeath all endowments and the approval of a one article law which voids deeds of sale of endowed water and land, from the approval date of this law and endowments which were sold without legal permission or which became property in some fashion will return to their endowed status and the property deeds thus prepared will be null and void. In a press conference, the director general of East Azarbaijan Province's Endowments Office announced the above matter and pointed to the means of implementing the one article approved by the Majlis, and said: Throughout East Azarbaijan Province there are 115 endowed farming villages, which will come into the ownership of the Endowments Office following legal formalities, and will return to their endowed status and the deeds that were thus prepared will be converted into fallow system arrangements. So far a number of farmers have contacted this general office in order to receive an assignment and obtain a lease and have announced their readiness. Furthermore, preliminary actions for the referral of endowed villages and farms have been carried out, and subsequently leases will be prepared with farmers having fallow arrangements. Concerning leasing to farmers and the level of lease cost, he stated: The purpose of preparing leases and owning the endowments is in no way profit oriented. Instead bequeathal is being done on the basis of Islam's sacred law, and the lease cost will be at a level which will put no pressure whatsoever on the farmer.

9597

CSO: 4640/468

IRAN

KUWAITI PAPER REPORTS TEHRAN MERCHANTS' MESSAGE TO GRAND AYATOLLAH

GF211353 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 20 Apr 85 p 1

["Text" of message sent by Tehran merchants to Grand Ayatollah Abolqasem Musavi-Kho'i, on the practices of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the war with Iraq--on 8 Jumadi al-Awwal 1405 of the Hegira, 30 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

His Eminence Grand Ayatollah, supreme Muslim authority in the world, Haj Abolqasem Musavi-Kho'i. May God grant him long life.

With great respect we present to your eminence that you undoubtedly know the matters that have taken place in Iran over the past 6 years, whereby the regime of the Islamic Republic has regrettably executed women and men in the name of Islam, and confiscated money and people's possessions. Approximately 500,000 Muslim individuals in our country have been killed.

Furthermore, as a result of air raids, thousands of people have died or have been wounded or maimed. The economic centers and cities in both countries [Iran and Iraq] have been destroyed and laid waste, which has resulted in the expatriation of millions who have become homeless. They are also perplexed, for the two countries are Muslim and all the wounded and killed voice the statement: There is no God but God and Muhammad is His prophet.

As it is a legitimate duty to refer to the supreme authority, to clarify the situation of the faithful, then he is requested to inform us whether or not these actions and sayings which are carried out in the name of Islam are in accordance of Islamic law, and what is the duty of the faithful in this regard?

Peace and the mercy and blessings of God be upon you.

[signed] The merchants of Tehran.

CSO: 4604/28

IRAN

NVOI COMMENTS ON CLERGYMEN'S OPPOSITION TO WAR

TA192000 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Unattributed commentary: "All the People Want the War to End"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The U.S. and British-sponsored war is still going on. The United Nations, the Security Council, the movement of nonaligned countries, and other world organizations, assemblies, and figures--by approaching the regimes of Iran and Iraq--have demanded the speediest halt to attacks on civilian areas and an end to the imperialist-sparked war. However, war, bombardment, firing of missiles, the shelling of residential areas and productive centers, and aiming at the industrial centers of both countries are continuing. The outcome of this has been and cannot be other than to roll in dust and blood the towns and villages of both countries, to make tens of thousands of toiling and deprived Iranian and Iraqi families sit in mourning, and to squander the national revenues and paralyze the economies of both countries.

In particular, since the Iranian side considers the war's end a great tragedy for the Islamic regime, it tries to prolong the war. The leaders of this war-mongering regime, in order to justify this great crime--without the slightest shame--term the war's continuation as implementing a divine decree. They talk of the conquest of Karbala and An Najaf, and of the export of their Islamic revolution to Iraq. With the promise of paradise, they shamelessly and with unprecedented cruelty send scores of thousands of Iranians to their deaths.

By a self-made and incorrect interpretation of the Koran, Khomeyni says: We are bound to go to war upon the Koran's decree, and this is a divine decree. His followers and disciples, too, in adherence to the grand caliph, are repeating this same claim in other Islamic wrappings and feeding them to the people. However, is the war's prolongation a religious duty and a divine decree? Let us see what answer other clergymen of our homeland are giving to this question.

Ayatollah Kho'i, who holds first position among six sources of emulation, several days ago broke his 6-year silence in connection with the war's unprecedented escalation. Ayatollah Kho'i's spokesman gave his answer to correspondents in Paris: Ayatollah Kho'i declared his position to anti-Shari'a measures in the Islamic Republic. By publishing a decree, he considered participation in the Iran-Iraq war as taboo. Ayatollah Kho'i also asked Muslims to

solve their differences directly and without the interference of others. Ayatollah Kho'i, who issued his decree in response to two questions by his followers in Iran, said the following: What is taking place in Iran in the name of Islam and the Islamic Republic is contrary to the Shari'a. Ayatollah Kho'i, who is over 90 years old, last year refused to answer Khomeyni's letter, and thus proclaimed his dissatisfaction over developments in the Islamic regime of Iran.

The dear compatriots are also certainly aware of the decree by Ayatollah Tabataba'i Qomi prohibiting the war. The AL-ANBA' newspaper, published in Kuwait, has written the following in this connection: There is a deep difference of view among Iran's religious leaders regarding the need to continue the war with Iraq. The AL-ANBA', by publishing a picture of Ayatollah Qomi's decree in Persian, reaffirmed some of its sentences. The decree says in part: War between Muslims is taboo, and the prolongation of the current war will have no benefit but will inflict damage on both sides.

Even Mr Bazargan's Freedom Movement, which in the past announced its support for Khomeyni's regime a number of times, published a book entitled "War and Peace," and initially reviewed war and peace from the Koran's viewpoint, then reached the conclusion that the Koran repeatedly urged all Muslims to pursue peace and conciliation. Thus, the prolongation of war by the warmongering Islamic rulers--while being an inhuman and antipeople act--is at the same time an anti-religious measure. Fortunately, our homeland's people, including the scores of million-strong masses of the country's toilers, have rightly understood this ploy by the Islamic rulers. For this reason, in most parts of the country, including Tehran, they are continuing their struggles with the utmost power against the war.

The wide demonstrations by the toiling people of 13 Aban District in South Tehran, who protested against the war's prolongation, is evidence of this. The repressive forces of Khomeyni's regime dragged in blood the tight ranks of scores of thousands of participants in this protest demonstration, and arrested and killed a number of Tudeh members, Feda'iyen, Mojahedin, and other noble and struggling children of our homeland. Mr Khomeyni and his followers and adherents should know that with this massacre and the war's prolongation they only sow wind and will reap a storm.

From realistic clergymen to the genuine forces of the revolution and millions of Iranians--all request an end to war and bloodshed and to the slaughter of Iranian strugglers in medieval dungeons. They rightly believe that this can only be achieved by expelling the tricky rulers who have betrayed the revolution.

CSO: 4640/517

IRAN

BRIEFS

CONSUMER COOPERATIVES--Haji 'Abdulvali Dehqan, head of agricultural cooperative of Takhar Province and member of the Sa'adat consumer cooperative, expressed his opinion concerning the creation of the cooperative in that Province as follows: The victory of the glorious April revolution and its new revolutionary stage has brought about great fortune for the country's farmers, and has ensured equal rights for farmers in the society. As a result of this the country's farmers have come to possess every kind of privilege, including the creation of agricultural and consumer cooperatives. It is easy for the farmers to profit from them. The cooperatives purchase farm products and supply farmers' crops at suitable prices. It should be noted that the creation of consumer cooperatives in the Takhar Province has allowed all the inhabitants to obtain their basic necessities such as oil, tea, soap, or fabric and farming implements such as shovels, picks, plows, etc. at prices 10 to 15 percent lower than in the bazaar. /Text/ /Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 25 Feb 85 p 1/ 9597

FOREIGN TRADE EXPANSION--In accordance with the goals of the glorious April revolution, the DRA government is implementing productive plans on whose basis the country's agricultural, industrial and mineral production is increasing. The increased level of production has had a positive effect in improving the standard of living for our citizens and strengthening the country's national economy. According to a report from a source from Kabul's sixth party district, relying on the growth of agricultural, industrial and mineral production, the country's foreign trade for the year /March 1984-March 1985/ was forecast to amount to \$1,359,650,000. Of this amount \$666,550,000 accrued from exports and \$693,600,000 from imports. The Kabul Cooperatives Union has increased the distribution of consumer goods from 108,000,000 afghanis in the year 1362 /March 1983-March 1984/ to 174,000,000 afghanis in 1363 /1984-1985/. To honor the twentieth anniversary of the PDPA's founding, the Kabul Cooperatives Union has pledged to carry out the distribution of 3,000,000 afghanis worth of goods more than in the plan for the year 1984-1985. In order to offer consumer goods to Kabul's citizens, the plan for 1984-1985 called for the construction of fifty stores, but through the intensive work on the occasion of the party's anniversary, 57 stores selling consumer goods were built during a five month period, and in a two month period the membership in consumer cooperatives reached 3,000 persons. /Text/ /Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 25 Feb 85 p 1/ 9597

APARTMENT HOUSE COMPLETION--As a result of the implementation of the first phase of the construction of Sharbarghan's 1,000-dwelling unit apartment house project, six apartment buildings, each with a capacity of 204 dwelling units, have recently been completed and are duly occupied. While presenting these facts, the head of the project also stated: Three of the apartment buildings have 36 dwelling units each, one apartment building has 24 dwelling units, and the other two buildings are administrative offices and all are equipped with the most modern accommodations and technical equipment. Furthermore, according to the plan, schools, kindergartens, nurseries, wading pools, athletic fields, stores, conference rooms, clubs and parks will also be built for the project. The speaker went on to add: The construction work on the second phase of the project, which includes 200-dwelling unit apartment buildings all complete with subsidiary facilities is now underway. He also stated: As a result of the initiatives, creativity, and the voluntary work done by the workers and engineers, from the beginning of the project until the end of the construction of the first phase--coinciding with the third quarter of this year--an amount of 2.14 million afghanis has been saved from the total projected expenditure.
/Text/ /Kabul HAQIQA. E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 24 Feb 85 p 1/
9597

TRADE WITH CHINA--Continuing their visit to Iran, Mr Zhang Jingfu, deputy prime minister of the People's Republic of China, and his accompanying delegation met with Mr Aqazadeh, the executive deputy to the prime minister of our country, yesterday morning in the Office of the Prime Minister and spoke about the continuation and expansion of relations between the two countries in various areas with a group of high-ranking political, economic and cultural officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The head of the Chinese delegation referred to the history of friendly relations between the nations of Iran and China, the numerous contacts between the high-ranking officials and delegations of the two countries since the victory of the Islamic revolution, especially the significant growth of economic trade between the two in recent years, and emphasized the continuation of cooperation to secure the common interests of the Iranian and Chinese nations as favorable grounds for activating North-South negotiations. Then, Mr Aqazadeh referred to the silk route as an actual case of deep old relations between the two nations, emphasized the importance of Iran and China as two important and sensitive Asian countries and pointed out the necessity for a reasonable framework for economic exchange between the two. In conclusion, the members of both delegations continued the negotiations, forming three committees--economic and commercial, agricultural, and scientific and technological. In this meeting, in addition to the expansion of commercial relations, exchanges of information and scientific and technical experiences between the two countries in various agricultural, fishing, animal husbandry, poultry raising, irrigation, rural industries, roads and dam building were discussed and approved. [Text] [Tehran BURS in Persian 28 Feb 85 pp 1, 2] 10,000

AYATOLLAH KHO'I'S STATEMENT ON WAR--["Text" of the document-message issued by the supreme Iranian religious authority, Grand Ayatollah Abolqasem Musavi-Kho'i, on the situation in Iran and the war with Iraq, on 1 Jumadi al-Akhirah, 22 February 1985] In the name of God, the compassionate, the Merciful. The actions that are carried out in Iran in the name of religion have no connection with religion, but are rather in contravention of Shari'ah laws. War and fighting between Muslims are not permissible. The war between Iran and Iraq is unlawful, and benefits only the enemies of Islam. It is the duty of the rulers of Muslims to resolve their disputes in accordance with the dictates of the Koran and the prophet's tradition. [signed] [Grand Ayatollah] Abolqasem Musavi-Kho'i. [Text] [GF211356 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 20 Apr 85 p 1]

TAX COLLECTION IN BAKHTARAN--The General Office of Economic and Financial Affairs of Bakhtaran Province announced that during the current year 1,920,906,000 rials of taxes have been collected in the province, of which 261,244,000 rials are indirect taxes. In an interview with IRNA's correspondent, the director general of the Bakhtaran Province General Office of Economic and Financial Affairs added: The total tax collected during this period shows a 29 percent increase over the same period last year. He then said: In the last ten months, of 2,732,765,000 rials of credits for reconstruction and renovation in Bakhtaran Province, the amount of 1,778,663,000 rials has been spent in implementing 38 renovation and reconstruction projects in the war-stricken regions. Furthermore, of 6,586,635,000 rials of development credits for Bakhtaran Province, 4,395,677,000 rials have been spent in 75 development projects including 902 different plans. Out of 769,563,000 rials of credit approved for 16 development projects from national credits, 504,762,000 rials have been spent. /Text/ /Tehran BURS in Persian 18 Feb 85 p 1/ 9597

MINES IN OPERATION--At the present time 900 different mines with organic and inorganic products are in operation nation-wide. In an interview with IRNA's correspondent as he entered Tabriz, Eng Nili, the minister of mines and metals, announced this fact. Pointing to the potential resources in east Azarbaijan Province, he stressed the necessity of identifying and utilizing the minerals in the province. Concerning starting up idle mines, he added: We have certain plans underway to start up 400 idle mines with the cooperation and participation of the people and the private sector. Concerning the role of mines in severing the country's dependency, the minister of mines and metals said: To whatever degree we are active in discovering, extracting and utilizing minerals, we will be equally effective in achieving the slogan of industrial independence. According to this report, the minister of mines and metals arrived in Tabriz in order to become familiar with the mine and prospecting activities in East Azarbaijan Province. /Text/ /Tehran BURS in Persian 6 Feb 85 p 1/ 9597

TRADE WITH JAPAN--Mr Behzad Nabavi, who is in Japan on an official visit at the head of a commercial and economic delegation, met with Mr Shintaro Abe, Japan's foreign minister. In this meeting, Mr Nabavi expressed Iran's interest in expanding relations between the two countries and said: Since the victory of the revolution, the Islamic Republic of Iran has become an independent country able to make decisions concerning its relations with other countries. Mr Nabavi said: In the region, Iran is a wealthy country, which, with its large population, possesses the characteristics of independence from the East and the West. These characteristics distinguish it from other countries in the region. Mr Nabavi said: We condemn the attacks on ships in the international waters as a result of Iraq's adventurism and strongly support shipping safety. In conclusion, he expressed his interest in the continuation of friendly relations between the two countries. Then Mr Abe emphasized Japan's interest in preserving close relations between them, praised the efforts of the Iranian nation in reconstructing their country even in war conditions, and expressed hope that the visit of Mr Nabavi will result in the expansion of relations between the two countries. Mr Nabavi and the accompanying delegation also visited the Nissan car manufacturing complex. [Text]
[Tehran BURS in Persian 28 Feb 85 p 2] 10,000

CSO: 4640/499

PAKISTAN

INDIAN PROPAGANDA TERMED 'REGRETTABLE'

GF172000 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 14 Apr 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Regrettable Indian Propaganda"]

[Text] A spokesman for the Pakistani Embassy in London has strongly contradicted reports that Pakistan is making atom bombs. This was done in reaction to the Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's television interview claiming that Pakistan was fully engaged in making atom bombs. Mr Rajiv Gandhi has also threatened that if Pakistan makes an atom bomb, it will upset the balance of power in the region and this will affect Indo-Pakistan relations. The Indian Prime Minister has also criticized delivery of U.S. arms to Pakistan and on the Afghanistan question he has reiterated his former stance which is based on keeping in line with the Moscow position that if the Mujahedin end their resistance, if they guarantee that they will live in peace in the future, and if the foreign interference in Afghanistan ceases, then the Soviet forces will be withdrawn automatically.

This television interview by the Indian Prime Minister was held at a time when Mr Ramesh Bhandari, secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, had returned home expressing his complete satisfaction with the talks he had in Islamabad. On his return to New Delhi he said that the atmosphere at present was exemplary for normalizing relations between the two countries.

It is possible that Mr Rajiv Gandhi gave this interview to British television prior to the visit to Islamabad by Mr Ramesh Bhandari. If this is so then we must realize that Mr Bhandari's program was prepared weeks before the interview and Mr Rajiv Gandhi therefore should have avoided making such remarks that could pollute the atmosphere rather than brighten it. In any case in the light of this interview we must ask the Indian regime as to what they think of Mr Bhandari's exceptionally optimistic views?

The Indian government (and the Indian lobby in the western countries including the United States) has engaged in the baseless and mischievous propaganda about Pakistan making atom bombs. Pakistan has repeatedly given assurances that it is doing nothing of the sort nor does it have any intention to indulge in such a luxury. Pakistan is busy in a small peaceful nuclear program only to meet its growing energy needs and this energy is essential for its medical, agricultural and industrial projects.

It is true that Pakistan has acquired the capability of enriching uranium but India has this capability too. It has been regularly said in the international circles that India has enough plutonium to make a dozen atom bombs. India has also acquired the means of dropping bombs while Pakistan has neither a rocket, missile, or aircraft which could be used to deliver a bomb. Pakistan has tested no device so far while India has tested an atomic device in May 1974.

It is surprising that the United States (which has the responsibility to ensure non-proliferation of nuclear arms and where there is a law to control the countries which can acquire nuclear arms) is satisfied with the assurances given by Pakistan but India, which has not even signed the nonproliferation agreement and which has opposed a Pakistani draft resolution in the United Nations to declare this region as a nuclear arms free region, does not believe in Pakistani assurances nor does it agree to mutual inspection of the nuclear installations.

In regard to the delivery of U.S. arms, we can say that it is necessary for safeguarding Pakistan's own existence. Besides, the arms which are being acquired by Pakistan are absolutely nothing compared to the billions worth of arms which India has acquired from the Soviet Union and other countries. India conveniently does not take into account its own ordinance factories or its most modern aircraft, warships, tanks, guns, rockets, and the stockpiles of arms and ammunition.

Pakistan has several times drawn India's attention to the fact that Pakistan would very much like to live with India as a good and friendly neighbor but it has been of no avail. Pakistan wants to maintain the good atmosphere which has been created after the visit to Islamabad by the Indian foreign secretary. Pakistan has now set its eyes on the Sahabzada Yaqub Khan's upcoming visit to New Delhi where he will hold talks with Indian officials during the non-aligned meeting. But if the mischievous propaganda against Pakistan continues on the same lines as now and Indian officials stick to their guns, then there is little hope for normalizing relations between the two countries.

CSO: 4656/115

PAKISTAN

EFFORTS TO END GULF WAR VIEWED

GF201408 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 15 Apr 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Signs of an Understanding in the Gulf War"]

[Text] The talks recently held by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar with the leaders of Iran and Iraq in connection with efforts to end the Gulf war seem to have had some positive effect. Diplomatic sources believe that Iran has reacted positively in these talks, and Iraq, which had initially rejected Mr Perez de Cuellar's peace proposal, has now agreed to have a second look at the matter. Mr Perez de Cuellar's peace proposal has not yet been formally released to the press, but nevertheless he said that he only put some of his views before the parties concerned and these could not be considered as a proposal. The secretary general is submitting his proposal to the Security Council and we will soon know what views he placed before the parties concerned and how much progress can be expected on the basis of these views.

It is encouraging that the Iranian envoy has applauded the efforts which Mr Perez de Cuellar has made toward ending the war and has said that his attitude during these talks had been very positive. Mr Perez de Cuellar has given details of his visit and has said that he undertook this journey on his own accord. He added that both parties assured him that they want peace, and that they have full confidence in him. He also said that in view of these circumstances, some progress could be made in the issue. While it is true that this visit did not bring about any immediate result and the parties are no closer together than before, the hope expressed by Mr Perez de Cuellar is a good omen. He has expressed his determination to pursue his efforts and to keep in contact with both parties. It is good that high-level contact has been set up between the two countries. He has told the leaders of both countries that if it is necessary for him to return to the region in connection with a peaceful solution of the problem, he will have no hesitation in paying a second visit to Tehran and Baghdad.

Mr Perez de Cuellar has expressed the hope that the ICO and the nonaligned movement will fully cooperate with the efforts which the United Nations is making toward resolving the issue in a peaceful way. While it is true that at present only the UN secretary general is actively working to bring about an understanding between the parties to the war, the ICO and the nonaligned movement are not sitting idle in the matter. These two organizations also

have set up contacts with both countries. By the time this editorial goes to the press, ICO Secretary General Seyed Sharifuddin Pirzada will have met with Mr Perez de Cuellar. We fully support Mr Perez de Cuellar's views that the ICO and the nonaligned movement will offer full cooperation to the United Nations in finding a peaceful solution to the problem. However, we think that the success of all these efforts lies with the parties to the Gulf war and if they have learned a lesson from this fruitless and destructive war, they will be ready to come to an understanding because it would be in their interests.

CSO: 4656/115

PAKISTAN

CONCRETE STEPS TOWARD PRESS FREEDOM URGED

GF211220 Rawalpindi HAIDAR in Urdu 14 Apr 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Freedom of the Press"]

[Excerpts] The Information and Broadcasting Minister, Mr Hamid Nasir Chatha, spoke to the HAIDAR correspondent at a reception and said that the role of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has undergone a change. It will have to formulate a new policy in light of present conditions. He said all government policies will be finalized by the federal cabinet in light of which he will be able to implement some changes but the path from martial law to a democracy is rather difficult and one must tread carefully. [passage omitted]

The information and broadcasting minister's utterances reflect his views and they are a source of reassurance for all circles who believe in the freedom of journalists and the press. The federal minister of information and broadcasting has also stressed that needless publicity must be ended. The fundamental consideration in media coverage is that whatever is said should be such that people believe it, and accept it as truth. If the federal minister says that he will change the level and quality of the media in a way that international opinion believes it, then it is obvious that he is not satisfied with present standards and in his opinion they are not up to the mark on an international scale.

Those publications which are under government control should be coordinated according to the needs and requirements of a civil government and the needs and requirements known to everyone. The civil government demands that the people should be kept informed of everything and there should be no gulf between the government and people. Instead of publicizing individuals, policies should be publicized. We hope that Mr Chatha will turn the media toward the people and will take effective steps for the same.

As for the newspapers and publications which are not under government control, their immediate problem is not freedom and it is reassuring that the minister is himself desirous of a change and is aware that freedom of the press is necessary for the consolidation of democracy. We also expect that various problems such as the quota for advertising, paper, the discrepancies in the same, and the problems of journalists will be attended to and resolved by Mr Nasir Chatha.

PAKISTAN

COMMENTARY EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER FALL IN REVENUES

GF171750 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Apr 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Regret Over Falling Remittances"]

[Text] Concern over the fall in home remittances is increasing because of the steady negative trend. But after a fall of 13 percent during the first four months of the current financial year, Dr Mahbubul Haq heaved a sigh of relief when the November figure turned out to be only 8 percent. We have not been given the figures for the last four months. Evidently they are unfavourable otherwise the government would have come up with them readily.

Disturbing indeed is the fact that while the Sixth Five-Year Plan projected an increase in home remittances of 10 percent annually, raising the total earnings from 2.8 billion to 4.6 billion dollars, the decline in the very first year of the plan has been followed by a crash this year. Along with that, exports have also fallen (instead of rising by 19 percent as projected early this year) by 15 percent in value or 8 percent in real terms. As a result, the balance of payments deficit in the current account rose to one billion dollars in the first year of the plan from 500 million dollars in the preceding year, and the fear is that the deficit may be around 1.5 billion dollars by the end of June. The result would be a crash of the government's foreign exchange reserve from 2.8 billion dollars to under one billion dollars by the end of this financial year.

Of course, all this is not of the government's making. International economic recession, and upset in the oil states following a fall in prices of oil and cutback in production--which have resulted in the return of a large number of Pakistanis--have also aggravated the crisis. But the painful fact is that even now we have no accurate figures of the number of persons returning home permanently and of the new recruits sent for employment overseas each month. Nor has there been a proper study of how the remittances, which reached their peak of 3.08 billion dollars in 1982-83, are being utilised by them.

A study made three years ago showed that 60 percent of the remittances were being used for current consumption by the dependents of Pakistanis abroad, 26 percent on acquiring real estate and 14 percent on savings, of which institutional savings were only 1.5 percent. How reliable was that study is still not known. And surprisingly no further study of the utilisation of the largest

source of foreign exchange earnings has been made thereafter. The apathy in this area is as lamentable as it is inexplicable.

Now we are told that investment by Pakistanis overseas had declined to two million dollars after June 1984, from 10 million dollars annually. How reliable are these figures? Their investment in large or medium scale industries may be small, but in the small industries and the service sector, like transport, it has been substantial. But the figures are not available. An official estimate says that 200 million dollars could be mobilised for investment from them. But if in the good years the average annual investment was only 10 million dollars, how can 200 million dollars be mobilised for investment now?

Political uncertainty, absence of special provisions for overseas investment, steady depreciation in the value of the rupee, and uncertainties created by interest-free banking are reported to be among the factors causing the sharp fall in overseas industrial investment. The fact is that if overseas investors are given extra-special incentives the same facilities would be demanded by domestic investors. And if that is denied, domestic capital may go out and return as overseas investment and enjoy the concessions given to such investment. In fact this is already happening, and such recycled funds form a part of the remittances which have been coming in.

CSO: 4600/386

PAKISTAN

POPULATION EXPLOSION: EFFECTIVE CHECK SAID URGENTLY NEEDED

GF171736 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 10 Apr 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Checking the Population Explosion"]

[Text] Despite the alarming population explosion and the urgency for effective measures to check it, the official campaign has suffered from sudden shifts in policy and programmes. Brief periods of direct public appeals for restraining population growth and keeping the size of families small have been followed by prolonged periods of indifference or a kind of hush hush approach to the issue. Too many seminars and workshops, along with occasional large conferences, may have inflated the T.A. bills of officials but have produced no positive results. Hence Pakistan's population, which has tripled in 38 years from 32.5 million in 1947, now threatens to double itself by the end of the century, unless the current 3 percent annual growth is checked.

A public education programme for family planning is due to begin from April 10 on the radio and from April 20 on TV. The official press, too, will join the campaign. Certainly such publicity campaigns will stimulate public interest in the programme and make the people realise the urgency for family planning. But the campaign should not be brief, as in the past when objections came from one orthodox quarter or another. It should be sustained over a long period. Quick results cannot be obtained from such a campaign in a traditional society like ours while over 90 percent of the women are illiterate. But the audio-visual media can produce results if the campaign is followed by pamphlets on the subjects for those who need them, and adequate field support programmes. The publicity and the field work should go hand in hand.

Heartening indeed is the fact that the cooperation of China has been sought because of its notable success in this field. The six-point agreement with China to be signed this week is pretty comprehensive and focuses on mass publicity and education in family planning, research and training of the family planning personnel. The advantage of cooperating with China in this area is that it is bound to be cheap, and not too heavy administratively.

Dr Mahbubul Haq has been emphasising that the population explosion could be checked effectively only by increasing female literacy and employment for women. Judging by the sad history of economic planning, these objectives may not be realised early. Hence family planning demands urgent and sustained

attention. The secretary, population planning and welfare, says that the sixth plan seeks a reduction of only two million in the population growth. This is a small dent in the large size of the population, but even this reduction may not be achieved without positive efforts.

Because of the steady population growth it has taken 35 years for a doubling of the per capita income in real terms. And that stands in sharp contrast to the soaring expectations of the people. Thus while economic growth has to be accelerated at one end, the population explosion has to be held down at the other. And the government must ensure that the campaign to be launched now is imaginative, effective and sustained, as the alternative is chaos and a massive national tragedy.

CSO: 4600/386

PAKISTAN

MRD LEADERS DISCUSS STRATEGY

GF200900 Karachi DAWN in English 16 Apr 85 p 1

[Text] Karachi, April 15: Almost all MRD leaders had arrived in the city by Monday in connection with the two-day session of the MRD's Central Action Committee beginning from tomorrow (Tuesday).

The MRD convener, Mir Ghous Bakhsh Bizenjo who is also the President of defunct PNA's [presumably Pakistan National Assembly] reached Karachi from his hometown Nal (Baluchistan) on Sunday night.

Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, president of the outlawed Pakistan Democratic Party (PDP), and Syed Qaswar Gardezi, secretary-general of the defunct Pakistan National Party (PNP), flew in from Multan this Monday forenoon. They were received at Karachi Airport by Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, current convener of the defunct PPP's [Pakistan People's Party] Central Executive.

Khan Abdul Wali Khan, accompanied by Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour and Mr Abdul Khaliq Khan, will arrive by air tomorrow (Tuesday) at 10 p.m.

Air Marshal (retd.) Asghar Khan arrived here from Islamabad in the afternoon and was also welcomed by Mr Jatoi. Tehrik-i-Istiqlal leaders present at the airport included Mr Musheer Ahmad Peshimam, Khan Mohammad Jamali, chief of Sind Tehrik, and Mr Mohammad Jamil.

Later in the afternoon, addressing Tehrik workers at Lakham House, Asghar Khan said the country could not prosper or gain strength unless the hackneyed and outdated social order was completely rooted out.

He said he had few expectations from the current parliamentarians, and did not expect them to deliver the goods.

Asghar Khan traveled in an open jeep at the head of a procession of cars from the airport to Lakham House, with party workers raising slogans all the way. The procession converted into a workers meeting at which the Tehrik chief, thanking them for their spontaneous reception, said: "I have come to Karachi after nearly six years and I am happy to see the mood of the people quite changed."

He said he refused to accept an "Islamic" system wherein the fundamental rights of the people remained suppressed and exploitation of the common man was conducted under the garb of religion. "Islam liberated the slaves, but today the whole nation has been forced into a serf-like existence," he observed.

Asghar Khan criticised the ulema who have sided with the present regime, saying "such persons are Ulema-i-Soo (ulema of evil)."

Prime Minister Junejo says that the opposition leaders and workers are all patriots, so why are hundreds of political detenues still behind bars? he asked.

According to him, 46 families instead of the previous 22 were today ruling the country. Pointing to the irregularities committed by the government, he said that Khwaja Safdar lost to Fakhre Imam in the election for the National Assembly Speaker because balloting was secret. The vote of confidence which the Prime Minister sought was unanimously given through a show of hands--which, he said proved that the temper of the elected assemblies was subservient to the will of one man.

Mr Asghar Khan warned that the next six months would witness the crash of the national economy if remedial measures were not taken immediately. The value of the rupee had progressively diminished; prices of essential commodities were soaring, and the purchasing power of the common consumer was decreasing. Besides, he said, an average five-member family earning Rs.800 per month sues, and that the strategy is nothing new. However, a sizable section of the alliance is of the opinion that they failed to anticipate the relatively high turnout during the assembly elections, and that they had "probably lost what they had gained during the referendum, for which the turnout percentage was very low." These elements argue that the MRD leadership must debate coolly and thoroughly the aftermath of the elections, as then alone will it be in a position to chart its future line of action.

However, a large section of the MRD is in favour of pursuing a policy of wait-and-see. They say they are not in a hurry, and that time alone would make clear the implications of the steps taken by the government, particularly during the next two to three months.

However, an intriguing element added to the political scenario is that the Prime Minister himself and some of his colleagues are talking as democratic leaders. They maintain that martial law and civilian rule cannot coexist for a long period, that martial law should be lifted, that political parties should be restored, and that even those opposed to the government are patriotic. This has naturally introduced an element of psychological change in the air, and those with an optimistic bend of mind have started nourishing the hope that change is imminent.

The MRD is, however, not likely to resile from its stand that the amendments introduced to the constitution have drastically changed its federal structure and that unless they are withdrawn or drastically changed, mere lifting of martial law is not going to be of any consequence.

The discussions, therefore, are likely to be long drawn-out, based on the post mortem of the MRD's earlier decisions and a thorough analysis of events that could take shape in the immediate future. Whether the deliberations lead to the charting of a fresh line of action in the wake of the recent developments remains to be seen. But the MRD leaders are certainly meeting under the spectre of the realisation that the need for unity has never been greater.

In the rush of events of recent weeks, the MRD has to consider where it stands. Has it been bypassed, or is this just a temporary phase?

There is no fixed agenda for its Tuesday meeting. But what attitude the MRD should adopt towards the elected assemblies promises to dominate the discussions. The political nature of many of the legislators, the predominance of feudals in their ranks and the fact that money was such a decisive factor in the elections will no doubt influence the MRD high command's judgment.

In the opinion of many observers, the MRD must bear the burden of the reproof that it has been reacting to events, not shaping them. People stayed away from the December referendum of their own accord and not because of the MRD. In the wake of the referendum, the MRD's attempts to hold public meetings in Lahore could claim only limited success.

And in the elections proper, its call for a boycott went unheeded. That an effective organisation was absolutely essential before a boycott call could be effective was not taken into consideration. However, the MRD can derive comfort from the fact that General Zia's sweeping Constitutional amendments have in a sense vindicated its decision to stay away from his elections.

Since their release from detention, a new realism seems to have crept into the discourse of important MRD leaders like Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi and Air Marshal Asghar Khan. The former has said some hard things about the 1973 Constitution, while the latter has spoken of the need to restructure the country's defence establishment. If some of this awareness manages to find its way into the concluding resolutions of the MRD meeting, it might be possible to say that this heterogenous alliance is on its way to defining a new strategy.

Some elements in the alliance are said to be taking a confrontationist line. They believe that the journey from autocracy to democracy has not yet started, and that the MRD would have to go it alone. They insist that the newly-elected representatives are just not in a position to deliver the goods. Hence the compulsion, in their view, of mobilising the people for mass struggle.

Opposed to this extremist attitude is what some observers believe to be the dominant view that the MRD should try to win over members of the new assemblies for the creation of a joint front, so that pressure could be maintained on the floor of the Houses as well as outside the assemblies, specifically for lifting of martial law and withdrawal of presidential amendments to the constitution.

A number of MRD leaders told this correspondent that while there may be a difference of approach between the MRD and parliamentarians, their primary objectives are similar.

There is a third faction, observers say, which believes in a "wait-and-see" stance. The argument is that the process initiated by the president will become inexorable, and eventually a trap for those who want to maintain the status quo.

This faction would prefer the MRD to maintain a low profile for at least a couple of months, reorganise itself during this time, and let the elected members of assemblies "have it out" with the president.

Apart from the main task of evolving its strategy, the MRD leadership is said to be dealing with some important organisational matters.

The alliance is likely to have a permanent organisational structure, and this will be a key point in discussions in Karachi.

The MRD action committee, in fact, approved the idea of giving a permanent organisational structure to the 11-party alliance at its Abbottabad session when a number of leaders were asked to prepare a blueprint for a new set-up.

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